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Fall 2022

CALIFORNIA CONTEMPORARY

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THE MOTHER LODE

HELENA ANDREWS-DYER '02 EXPLORES PARENTING AND IDENTITY

GET TO KNOW THE COLLEGE'S NEW LEADER IN OUR EXCLUSIVE Q&A

INTRODUCING

DEAN JOSEF SORETT

INTERVIEW
COLUMBIA
APPLICANTS

SCOTT RUDD

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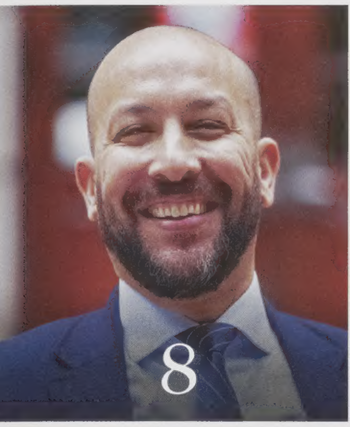

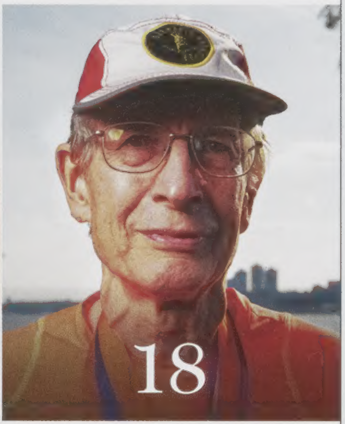

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Cover: Photograph by Rayon Richards

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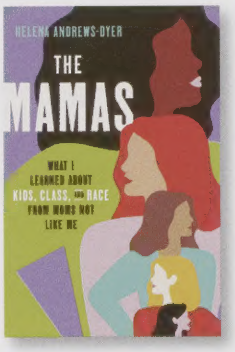

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Around the Quads

Shipman To Be 2022 Alexander Hamilton Medal Honoree

MARISSA RAUCH

The 2022 Alexander Hamilton Medal will go to Claire C. Shipman '86, SIPA'94, a journalist, author and public speaker who is an expert on confidence and women's leadership. She is the co-author (with BBC's Katty Kay) of four *New York Times* bestsellers, including *The Confidence Code* and *The Confidence Code for Girls*.

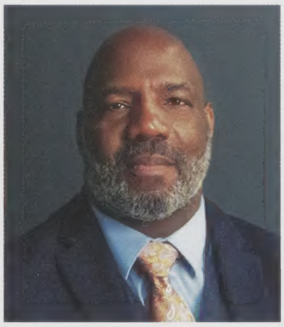
Shipman was a reporter at ABC News for 15 years, covering politics, international affairs and social issues. Prior to that, she reported on the White House and the Clinton administration for NBC News. Shipman also spent a decade at CNN, which included five years at its Moscow bureau covering the collapse of the Soviet Union. She has received numerous awards for her reporting, including a Peabody, a DuPont and an Emmy.

A native of Washington, D.C., Shipman applied to the College the first year it accepted applications from women; she is now a vice-chair for the University Board of Trustees. She was honored with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 1999 and was Class Day speaker the same year. She received the University Medal for Excellence in 2003.

The Hamilton Medal is the highest honor awarded to a member of the Columbia College community and recognizes distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor. The 73rd annual Alexander Hamilton Awards Dinner will take place on Thursday, November 17, in Low Rotunda.

SHAHAR AZRAN

Keren Yarhi-Milo GS'03


CALLA KESSLER

Jelani Cobb

Andrés Jaque

New Leadership for Three Schools

The College is not the only Columbia school with a new dean this year. Keren Yarhi-Milo GS'03, the Arnold A. Saltzman Professor of War and Peace Studies and director of the Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, became SIPA's dean on July 1. An expert in international security and conflict resolution, Yarhi-Milo's work focuses predominantly on how leaders make foreign-policy decisions regarding the use of force. She joined the Columbia faculty in 2020 after a decade teaching politics and international affairs at Princeton.

Jelani Cobb, the Ira A. Lipman Professor of Journalism and director of the Ira A. Lipman Center for Journalism and Civil and Human Rights, became dean of the Journalism School on August 1. Cobb, a distinguished historian and journalist, has been a contributor to *The New Yorker* since 2012; he was awarded the 2015 Sidney Hillman Prize for Opinion and Analysis Journalism for his columns on race, the police and injustice. Cobb began teaching at the Journalism School in 2016.

Andrés Jaque is the new dean of the Architecture School, effective September 1. Jaque is an architect, curator and artist; he is an associate professor at GSAPP, having joined the faculty in 2013, and leads the school's Master of Science program in advanced architecture design. Jaque is the founder of the Office for Political Innovation, an international architectural firm based in New York and Madrid.

....

Core to Commencement Campaign Closes

A total of $755 million has been raised by Core to Commencement, the first fundraising campaign dedicated exclusively to Columbia College students and the faculty who teach them. The campaign, which publicly launched in November 2015 and closed on June 30, received contributions from more than 47,000 donors. The total amount includes more than $280 million for financial aid and nearly $50 million for student experiences beyond the classroom such as internships, research and study abroad opportunities, as well as funds to revitalize student-facing spaces across campus. Additionally, the campaign endowed 29 professorships and two senior lectureships within the Faculty of Arts & Sciences. During the course of Core to Commencement, the

College also celebrated the centennial of the Core Curriculum and raised more than $50 million to ensure the vibrancy of the Core in its second century.

....

Sasha Wells To Lead DDC

Sasha Wells TC'18, a longtime Columbia College employee with decades of nonprofit experience, was named executive director of the Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center on June 1. DDC's mission is to increase the rates of high school graduation — as well as college enrollment and graduation rates — of low-income and first-generation college-bound youth from public schools in Harlem and Washington Heights.

"As a first-gen, low-income Latina from the South Bronx, it is an incredible honor to be DDC's next executive director," Wells says. "I look forward to building on the strength of this wonderful organization to increase its visibility and ultimately its impact on many more young people from the neighboring communities."

DDC was established as Project Double Discovery in 1965 by Columbia and Barnard undergraduates, who were spurred to action by the disparities between their Ivy League institution and the underserved nearby Harlem community. Since then, DDC has helped more than 15,000 students achieve college success by supporting their resilience and persistence with academic courses, college and career counseling, and tutoring and mentorship from Columbia students.

DidYouKnow?

Columbia Has Three National Historic Landmarks on Campus

Designated by the National Park Service, a National Historic Landmark is a property or site that captures a unique aspect of the United States' heritage (not to be confused with the National Register of Historic Places, on which Columbia has six sites). The first campus building to be added to the National Historic Landmark Program, in December 1965, was the Pupin Physics Laboratory (at right), commemorating the successful splitting of the atom in Pupin's basement lab. In December 1987, Low Memorial Library — the largest granite-domed building in the U.S. — joined Pupin on the list. Philosophy Hall was added in July 2003 for being the place where Edwin Howard Armstrong SEAS 1913 invented FM radio.

PUPIN PHYSICS LABORATORIES

JÖRG MEYER

Joseph Howley

By Jill C. Shomer

Joseph Howley kicked off his debut as chair of Literature Humanities by trying something new at Orientation. Traditionally, incoming freshmen gather for their "first Lit Hum lecture," a professor-led hour spent analyzing their summer reading assignment, Books 1–6 of *The Iliad*. This year, Howley and Larry Jackson, associate dean of Academic Affairs, Core Curriculum and Undergraduate Programs, decided to mix it up.

"It seemed weird to call it 'the first lecture' because there's no other Lit Hum lecture — it's a seminar class," Howley says. "One of the big growth experiences for first-year students is finding the confidence to have their own ideas and their own responses to the text. So the thing we didn't want to do was establish the expectation that Lit Hum is about listening to someone who knows more than you do."

Instead, on August 31, Howley gave a brief introduction, then a group of rising sophomores joined him on stage for a discussion about their Lit Hum experiences. Finally, he did a Q&A with the new students about *The Iliad*. "I got to be their first professor contact — the one talking to them about what they'd read before they'd even met their Lit Hum instructor," Howley says. "It's been one of the exciting things so far about being the Lit Hum chair."

Howley, an associate professor of classics, says there are two major components to his new role. First, he is teaching new preceptors and lecturers how to teach Lit Hum, which includes working with a cohort of 10 graduate student instructors on everything from syllabus design and pedagogy to how best to approach particular works in the curriculum.

The second part concerns the curriculum itself. All Core Curriculum syllabi are reviewed on three-year cycles, and Lit Hum will come due in Spring 2024. "I feel like preparing for that next syllabus review started on Day One for me," Howley says. "These reviews are a regular opportunity to make sure this class is current, that it's living up to its goals and to our ideals and values. We can't just not think about it in between."

Howley says he thinks of syllabus review as the action point in a continual process of discussion — with all parts of the Core Curriculum. "No part of the Core exists on its own," he says. "We may be thinking about changes to Lit Hum that might have implications for other parts of the Core. Or we might want to know what other course administrators are working on before we think about changes we want to make."

Howley will continue to teach one classics course every year, including Latin in the Spring 2023 term. In fact, Latin was what set him on the path to academia; he clicked with it as a high school student in Silver Spring, Md., and then "wandered into" a classics major at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, where he discovered the field was not just about language and literature, but also culture and history. "As a kid I had been interested in the ancient Romans," he says. "In college I really started to understand that Latin was not just an interesting and cool language — it was opening a door into ancient Roman culture."

He earned a master's and Ph.D. at the University of St Andrews in Scotland; he taught there for a year as a grad student before starting at Columbia in 2011.

At the College, Howley developed a Global Core course on the history of the book. The class is a result of what he says was a seismic shift in his career: In 2014, while researching a journal article about book burning in ancient Rome, Howley applied for and was accepted into an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded fellowship program at Rare Book School, an independent institute based at the University of Virginia. He took classes during the summer and organized and attended conferences there. "It gave me the tools I needed to formulate a new teaching interest," he says. "Book history is a vibrant, interdisciplinary field." The foundation invited Rare Book School to develop a self-sustaining successor program, known as The Andrew W. Mellon Society of Fellows in Critical Bibliography; Howley is its founding secretary.

Though he may have a full plate right now — he is also in the midst of a book project, *Slavery and the Roman Book*, and is a parent to two young children, ages 2 and 5 — Howley is excited to share the wealth. "When I think about what it means to be a professor, it's about guiding students to have an encounter not just with knowledge, but with the pleasure of uncovering and creating knowledge. Not just learning the things that are in the textbook or on the syllabus, but how much learning can change your life."

HOMER · HERODOTUS · SOPHO

Saturday Night Under the Stars

Columbia Reunion 2022, held June 9–12, was a spectacular return to campus! This year's gathering — the first in person since 2019 — made for an especially meaningful opportunity to reconnect with classmates and friends. Alumni met for celebratory dinners at iconic places on campus, like Low Rotunda, Casa Italiana or, as in this photo of the Class of 2012, South Lawn under the warm glow of Butler Library.

CHRIS TAGGART

the **Big** Picture

CLES · PLATO · ARISTOTLE · DEMOSTHENES · CICERO · VERGIL

INTRODUCING

DEAN JOSEF SORETT

RAYON RICHARDS

GET TO KNOW THE COLLEGE'S NEW LEADER IN OUR EXCLUSIVE Q&A

BY ALEXIS BONCY SOA'11

Josef Sorett knows firsthand how transformative education can be.

The new dean of Columbia College vividly recalls how, as an undergraduate at Oral Roberts University, he struggled to make sense of the role race played in society, which was often left unaddressed by the Christian communities in which he lived. The school offered no formal space to engage with those topics, he says, and there was no institutional willingness to recognize difference. Only one class stood apart, "Theology and Racial Identity," taken in his junior year with professor Leonard Lovett. There, Sorett found the open conversation he'd been searching for, on subjects he now considers regularly as a scholar working at "the locus of religion, race and American culture."

"I didn't see it as the beginnings of a career path," he says, "but looking back, that's where I first began to think about the interplay between those concepts in a structured way."

Today, Sorett is deeply committed to the idea of education as a "source and site" for social transformation. "The College does this," he says. "It is attentive holistically not just to what our students want to know, and to helping them figure out what they want to do, but also to helping them figure out who they want to be. And then asking them, what responsibility do they have to the broader world?"

Sorett, a professor of religion and African American and African diaspora studies, began his role as dean of the College, the Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor and VP for undergraduate education on July 1. Until recently, he chaired the Department of Religion and had previously been its director of undergraduate studies. He also served as DUS for several years for what was then the Institute for Research in African-American Studies (now the African American and African Diaspora Studies Department). In addition, Sorett is the founding director of Columbia's Center on African-American Religion, Sexual Politics and Social Justice (CARSS) and co-chair of the Inclusive Public Safety Advisory Committee. He holds a B.S. in health and exercise science from Oral Roberts, an M.Div. in religion and literature from Boston University and a Ph.D. in African American studies from Harvard.

> **"To steward students' experience while they are here is both a sobering responsibility and an incredible opportunity."**

Eager to introduce himself to the College community, Sorett sat down for an interview with *CCT* in early August. He talked about his experiences with education, his desire to integrate scholarship with public service, and what excites him most about being dean.

Congratulations! How are you feeling about your new role?

Thank you. I'm feeling very honored and privileged to be in this role at a place like Columbia. I'm really looking forward to Convocation. This group of freshmen are beginning their time at the College at the same time that I'm beginning this job. So in some ways, even though I'm in the position of leading the College, I'll also be learning the College with them. Which is a really exciting part of the larger work. Learning from the wider group of people who make Columbia what it is, which is to say, the students, staff, faculty and alumni, all of whom are deeply concerned that we're doing our best to fulfill the College's mission and to make sure that our students have the best experience.

This is also a uniquely exciting moment to be dean, when there are so many questions that are of broader significance. To steward students' experience while they are here — to provide spaces and language for them to make sense of their world and imagine who they want to be — it's both a sobering responsibility and an incredible opportunity.

Our readers are eager to get to know you. You've said that your family and the different communities you were part of growing up were very important. How did they influence you?

My childhood was spent in and around Boston. My earliest years were in Brookline, Jamaica Plain and Roxbury; after my parents divorced my mother moved to Lincoln, Mass., which is a small Revolutionary-era town. My experience was of always moving back and forth between these areas. I would spend two years in one place, two years in the other.

Jamaica Plain was very much a working-class neighborhood then, in the 1980s, with a diversity of ethnicities — largely Black and Latino but also Irish and Italian Catholic. Lincoln was about as far removed from that culturally and economically as you could get — largely white, except for the street we lived on, where my friends were African American, Peruvian, Cambodian. We all lived in this little housing development that brought diversity to Lincoln in the late 1970s and early '80s.

My mother worked part time for much of my childhood; she was a nurse. She really tried to be

COURTESY JOSEF SORETT

Introducing an event at First Corinthian Baptist Church in Harlem, part of a 2014 conference launching the Center on African-American Religion, Sexual Politics and Social Justice.

available to me and my younger brother. My father was a taxi driver and a basketball coach/social worker. He and a friend founded an organization, BossTown Affairs, using basketball as a means to help young men find a way out of economic precarity. They were very much trying to create a model and a path and a community — but also to win basketball games [laughs]. I was the 10-year-old kid sitting on the bench of the 16-and-under team, just tagging along.

Did your parents' spiritual journey set the stage for your own?

Very much so. My parents were both children of the 1960s; they were explorers and also spiritual seekers. They met at Middlebury College — both had left behind a "traditional" religious background. My mother was raised in the nation's oldest Black denomination, in an American Methodist Episcopal church in Roxbury, Mass., which traces its lineage back over 200 years to Boston's abolitionist networks. My father grew up in a Jewish home in Newark, N.J. His parents were not observant in any theological sense, but rather were a prototypical secular Jewish family. After they divorced, both of my parents eventually became born-again Christians, on what folks think of as Pentecostal or Charismatic terms. Their respective journeys led to me spending five years within Christian schools, from eighth grade through high school.

All of this — the whole milieu that I grew up in — made for a particular kind of biography. To be sure, I have had a complicated set of experiences with race and ethnicity as well as religion. Yet it was all quintessentially, and unexceptionally, a Black American story. It was formative not only to my coming of age as a young man in the 1980s and 1990s, but also proved critical for me, professionally, as it took the shape of academic questions.

Did you bring those questions with you to Oral Roberts?

Honestly, no! At that point pretty much all I was thinking about was basketball, and Oral Roberts was a place where the coach told me I had a shot to play Division 1 hoops. I visited Tulsa in July, and by August I was there as a freshman. That being said, it was certainly a space that was theologically familiar at the time, and that worked for a while. But actually living and being on campus brought a whole new set of questions to the fore.

How so?

Going to school there, I had a quasi-Black college experience. The undergraduate population at Oral Roberts was 20 or 25 percent Black then, higher than any other non-Historically Black College or University at the time; the leadership of the university, not so much. Black students, really from around the world, had a range of experiences on campus, but the university did very little to recognize or celebrate them, and that became frustrating. For example, there was an effort to form a Black student group, but the university wouldn't allow for it to be named as such. So it became the

Association for Ethnic Unity, what I can see now as a sort of Christian spin on classic 1990s multiculturalism.

To be sure, there were all sorts of conversations taking place in the dorms and elsewhere on campus. My freshman-year roommate grew up on an apple farm in Ohio and had never met a Black person. My friends, who were largely African American, would pile into the room, and my roommate would be there, too. We'd all often talk late into the night, not just about race but about our experiences and families, which bore witness to the cultural and racial differences that marked our worlds. Another friend had a roommate who put a Confederate flag on the wall of their dorm room. Our differences would play themselves out in *all* these different ways. Yet the university provided little, if any, institutional space to talk about it. Christian faith was appealed to as a means for transcending those differences, but everyday social life didn't work that way.

> **"The desire to renew and reforge a sense of community is front of mind for me."**

At that point, it was the early '90s — there was the Rodney King beating and verdict, the Los Angeles uprisings, the Million Man March. It was a moment of robust discussion concerning race politics in America. Yet within the curriculum and the institution itself there wasn't a set of resources for thinking about racial difference, and certainly not religious difference, in ways that I found helpful. As I got into my junior and senior year, that led me to a set of questions that were not really about my identity but rather about the way in which race worked, or didn't work, within the context of the nation, and within the context of Christian community. So by the time I was finishing undergrad, all of these concerns had bubbled up to the forefront of my mind. I decided to pursue a theological degree to begin sorting through some of them in a more sustained way.

Were you envisioning an academic career path while you were studying at BU and later at Harvard?

No. Definitely not while I was completing my master's degree at BU. Part of why I pursued a Ph.D. was because I had a sense that education was a resource for social transformation. I had a sense that one could leverage the resources of the university in service to the communities in which I'd been working and the communities I'd come from. So throughout graduate school I was working in churches and the nonprofit world as a researcher, largely trying to find a way to put scholarship into practice. I led a project that was evaluating an education program in Sing Sing prison; another project I led explored how Black churches figured in a set of debates around marriage equality. These were projects that began off campus, and that were driven by philanthropic and civic organizations trying to address public concerns in real time.

The latter project was the beginnings of the Center on African-American Religion, Sexual Politics and Social Justice.

Yes. When I joined the faculty in 2009, a number of colleagues helped me find a way to bring the project within the rubrics and structures of Columbia. It was initially a set of convenings that I organized as a professor, bringing together scholars, pastors and activists to think about where and how Black churches fit in a broader set of debates around sexual difference, against the backdrop of the growing marriage equality movement. Basically, creating a brain trust with support from a foundation — very collaborative, very much in Columbia's longstanding tradition of public-facing scholarship. But, trying to bring the right people together to think *with* about these questions placed me in a position of leadership on the project. And it also really helped me integrate a set of concerns that I'd been more or less juggling, back and forth, in the nonprofit and academic worlds.

After a while, it seemed that I was the only one asking, "Should this work stay at Columbia?" Eventually, with guidance from a number of colleagues on campus, we made a case that it should be a center, and in 2014 we launched CARSS with an international conference.

What other Columbia commitments have been formative for you?

So, immediately after I was awarded tenure in 2017, I said yes to several opportunities very deliberately because I was trying to understand what I wanted to *do* — in a larger sense — at this university. One of those things was serving on the Inclusive Public Safety Advisory Committee. It was the first experience that really gave me a glimpse of Columbia as a whole, the complexity of who we are as a community. I also agreed to serve on the CC/GS Committee on Instruction, and the COI does that as well insofar as you have students, administrators and faculty thinking together, specifically about the academic experience of our undergraduates.

With the inclusive public safety committee, we are thinking about the experience of our students not just in the classroom, but also holistically, alongside staff and faculty, as members of the broader University and our neighboring communities. The committee has people in government and community affairs, people from P&S and Morningside Heights, from Arts & Sciences, SIPA and the School of Social Work. And, at the time I joined, we were thinking about these questions against the backdrop of 2020, which made it more than — but also very specifically about —

questions of race, inequality and justice. Both of those committees, public safety and COI, really impressed me as spaces where one can have real impact.

What was your first experience with the Core Curriculum?

It was through my "Intro to African-American Studies" course, which I've taught regularly since 2011. I worked with a Ph.D. student and we redesigned it to become part of the Global Core. It had been a small class, offered through the Institute for Research in African-American Studies before the institute became the newest A&S department. It struck me that the questions that were coming up in the classroom were a resource that all of our students would benefit from. By moving it into the Global Core, it could be taken as an elective, which meant that more students could opt in, and we would get a wider range of students in terms of their intellectual interests, the diversity of the student body, class, gender, politics.

To watch this range of students — against the backdrop of Barack Obama's election as President, the growth of the #BlackLivesMatter movement, across the 2010s and into the years of Donald Trump's presidency, and everything in between — really brought to the fore, for me, the kinds of questions that are front of mind for so many of our students. Questions that are not just about what they want to know, but what they want to understand about themselves and the world they are living in.

Amazing. You've taught Contemporary Civilization, too?

Yes — in fact, last fall I had the experience of teaching African-American studies in the morning and CC in the afternoon, every Monday and Wednesday. And the range of questions that both courses surface about equality, authority and difference; the way students are trying to understand what this curriculum does or does not put on the table; what it means for who they are and how they fit in relationship to campus and also the broader world — it really helped me see how helping students think through these types of questions is at the heart of what the College does. That's the power of the Core Curriculum, I think, and of the College as the steward of the holistic undergraduate experience.

As you start your first academic year as dean, what do you see as the College's greatest strengths? And where are there opportunities for growth?

The College prides itself on being the most diverse of its peers. That's something we all celebrate, but it also raises a set of questions around how we can best serve the diversity of our students' needs and interests. How do we attend to the fullness of their experience, whether they come from a place of economic precarity or an elite independent school, whether they are international students or underrepresented minorities or the first in their family to attend college? How do we support who they are and who they want to be even as those are very much things in process?

On another level, how do we create space and community for our students as a collective; not just as individuals, but also as a University community? How do we facilitate and support thinking together in the face of all the differences that we are proud to claim as part of the institutional identity and mission?

The desire to renew and reforge a sense of community is front of mind for me. We are at an interesting moment on the heels of a couple of really long years (an understatement, if ever there was one) with the pandemic. I want us to think about ways to really bring folks together — with an awareness of evolving public health guidelines, of course — and to do it in a way that is attentive to the connections among students, faculty and alums.

When I think about this last Class Day and the enthusiasm I felt from colleagues on the faculty side, and the enthusiasm from the Classes of 2020 and 2021 to come back, it speaks volumes. I think we have an opportunity to build a community that can propel us forward and energize us in the months and years ahead.

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COURTESY JOSEF SORETT

In conversation with WQXR radio host Terrance McKnight as part of a talk series on playwright August Wilson.

INVENTING AN INSTITUTION

Two alumnae break ground on a groundbreaking San Francisco museum

By Jill C. Shomer

CA SF [illegible]

KATY PRITCHARD

Alison Gass '98

ULYSSES ORTEGA

Jonna Hunter GSAPP'96

Alison Gass '98 and Jonna Hunter GSAPP'96 believe that museums can do better.

With decades of curatorial and development experience between them — Gass' résumé includes the Jewish Museum and SF MoMA; Hunter's, the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Museum of Natural History — the Bay Area alumnae had the idea to create a radically innovative, non-collecting contemporary art museum from the ground up. One that could respond quickly to current events, take ambitious risks and prioritize inclusivity and accessibility; a museum made distinctive for having "social justice as part of its DNA," Gass says.

Astonishingly, Gass and Hunter turned their dream institution into an actual, 11,000-square-foot museum in just over a year. On October 1, the Institute of Contemporary Art San Francisco will open to the public in the city's artsy-industrial Dogpatch neighborhood, free of charge, under the leadership of Gass as the Krieger Family Director and Hunter as deputy director.

Their of-the-moment vision quickly found support from local investors, especially those in the tech industry. "We put our pitch together as: 'What if you had the privilege to start an institution, coming out of 2020 and 2021?'" Gass says. "We recognized that museums are facing a bit of a crisis around issues of equity and we don't have all the answers, but we're willing to recognize some of the problems and say that museums need a bit of course correction."

Gass and Hunter have ambitious goals: They are working to forge a more transparent business model and promote a more diverse art history canon, as well as revamping how art is curated, how artists and staff are compensated, and how art spaces are accessed.

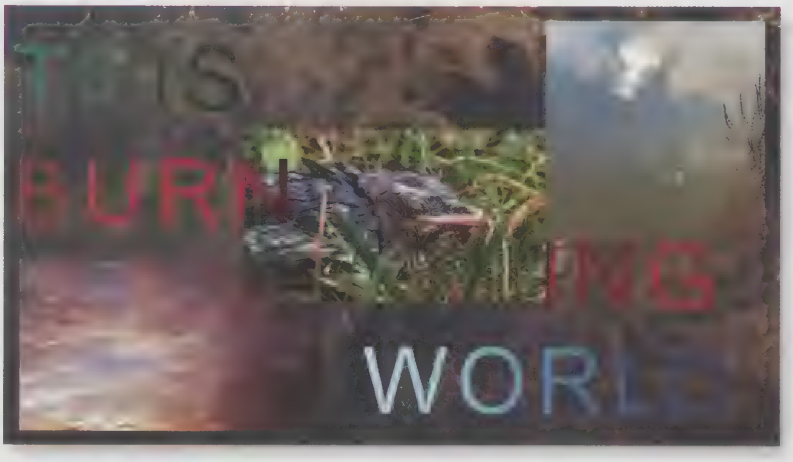
In this complicated city that's renowned for both its liberal ideals and its profound income disparity, ICA SF seems like exactly the right place to happen at the exact right time. "I think that there are shifts that can happen," Gass says. "And somehow, things like the ICA are evidence of the fact that extreme wealth and extreme progressive values can come together to make impact happen."

BEING A NON-COLLECTING MUSEUM — in other words, not owning a permanent artwork collection — gives an institution a lot of freedom. For one thing, storing and maintaining the work is expensive; on top of that, it doesn't stay contemporary for very long. Most significantly, it can limit a curator's vision, because a museum has a responsibility to show and tell stories about the work that it owns.

"If you don't have a collection, it's easier to say, 'Oh my god, we've just lived through a global pandemic — or as another example, the racial reckoning after George Floyd's murder — and I want to tell *that* story," Gass says. "And I don't have to look in the basement to do that. I can look at the world around me and decide I want *that* artist to tell that story."

Gass, who is from Boston but had been living in the Bay Area since 2005, left the West Coast in 2017 to lead the Smart Museum of Art at the University of Chicago; she returned to California three years later, in the middle of the pandemic, to head the Institute of Contemporary Art San José. ICA SJ's non-collecting mission was appealing — and ultimately, inspiring.

"I came to believe that the most impactful work I could do was in small, nimble, non-collecting museums," Gass says. "Places that can respond quickly in the moment to



A compilation of video images from Jeffrey Gibson's exhibit, *THIS BURNING WORLD.*

things that are happening in the world, and that are able to find the artists who can shed light on what's going on."

Gass feels that this type of institution is an important part of the art world ecosystem; it's a popular style of museum in Europe, known there as a *kunsthalle.* And San Francisco, though it does have many excellent art institutions and galleries, didn't have one.

Excited about the idea of creating a San Francisco *kunsthalle,* Gass spoke to collectors and supporters, then reached out to her friend and former colleague Hunter and told her this was something they should try. "This is a story that maybe could only happen in a place like San Francisco, because there's this mindset of experimentation and risk taking here," she says.

Gass and Hunter were put in touch with Andy Rappaport, a venture capitalist who, with his wife, Deborah, founded the Minnesota Street Project, which develops Dogpatch art spaces. Rappaport encouraged them to consider the new museum project as a startup; he then put up a million dollars and helped Gass and Hunter secure a lease for the building. All they had to do was raise a matching million.

> "It's critical to us that everyone who walks through the doors feels welcome, feels comfortable."

It took them just six weeks. Within eight months, they had $5 million in pledges.

"That told us this idea was resonant, that this was something this community wanted to see happen," Gass says. "There were a couple of really key people — some big tech names and some big art names." (Her position was underwritten by Mike and Kaitlyn Krieger; he is the founder of Instagram.)

Gass and Hunter believe it's important to talk about the business of museums — not just the exhibitions — with their donors and museum staff. And the reality is that in order to keep the museum free to the public, its entire revenue stream has to come through giving. They are currently making decisions about whether (and how) to solicit donations from museum guests, while taking care to make sure no one feels uncomfortable about not contributing.

BRIAN BARLOW

Artist Jeffrey Gibson is creating "a meditation on land acknowledgement" for ICA SF's opening.

"It's critical to us that everyone who walks through the doors feels welcome, feels comfortable," Gass says. "There is a deep barrier for a lot of people to just crossing the threshold of a contemporary art museum — many people feel that it's not a place for them. It's a big mission for us to address that and begin to change it."

And then there's what everyone is coming to see: the art. Because they started with a stripped-bare space, the curators were able to invite artists to make works that they couldn't show anyplace else. For the inaugural, art star Jeffrey Gibson, an Indigenous painter and sculptor who lives and works in New York, will create a meditation on land acknowledgement (in his words, "an apology to the earth"): He is cutting a 5-foot-wide, 20-foot-long segment out of ICA SF's concrete floor to expose the dirt, sand and toxic landfill under Dogpatch. "And we can do that, because it's not that fancy of a floor, and we can just refill it afterward," Gass says. Surrounding the cavernous excision will be floor-to-ceiling video of Upstate New York in all four seasons, shot largely on the artist's iPhone. Gibson, who is known for his colorful and ornate mixed-media work, will also create a translucent vinyl wrap of the building's exterior that will cast a patterned glow.

The front gallery space will hold a group show guest co-curated by Tahirah Rasheed and Autumn Breon, which will consider themes of leisure and adornment and how they relate to Black women's bodies. Gass says of the collection, "It will be an intergenerational spread of well-known artists like Carrie Mae Weems and Mickalene Thomas and new voices from the Bay Area — it's like: 'jewel … jewel … jewel … delicious!'

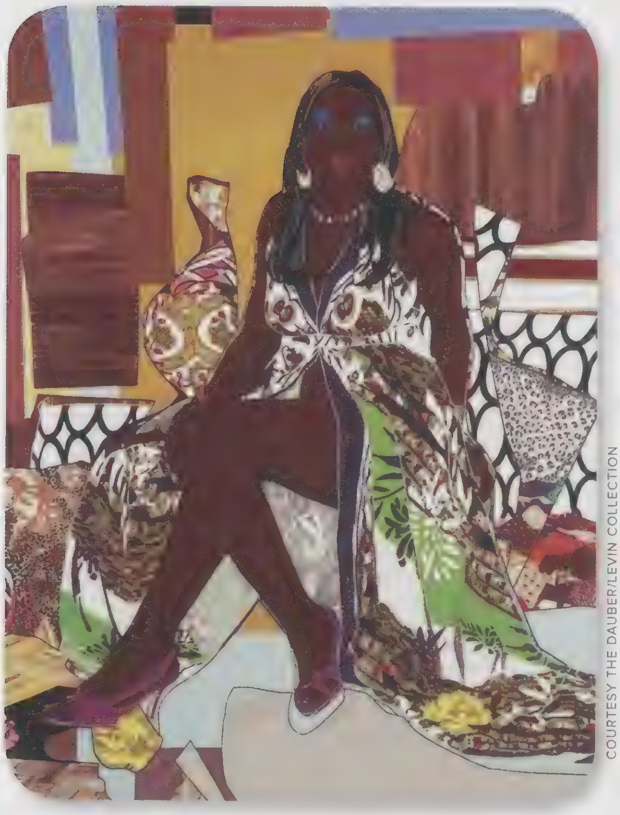
"These are two very different shows," she continues, "and the choice to go to a guest curator model is evidence of us being aware of the need to get intersectional voices into museums." Moving forward, ICA SF will feature a mix of California and Bay Area artists as well as those who are more globally recognized. "The Bay Area is a hard place to be a working artist," Gass says. "So we want to make sure we're creating opportunities for them."

An artist- and community-centered museum would not be fully walking the walk if it didn't also consider equity for staff, and Gass and Hunter are grappling with how to build a better future for museum workers. Low pay in the field and the expectation of a graduate degree are barriers to many; Gass says they specifically took educational requirements and years of specific museum experience off their job descriptions. "We know that we have to set salaries fairly and that we have to focus on pipeline course correction; that may be through paid internships and creating opportunities for our senior people to have the bandwidth for mentorships," she says.

At the moment, ICA SF has a staff of six, with some additional freelance consultants. "That's not 'normal' for the museum world," Gass says. "But it's constantly changing — and that gets back to that mentality of us being a startup. We're all still figuring it out."

BOTH WOMEN say that their experience at Columbia was foundational. In fact, in many interviews Gass attributes a single class — "Women in Visual Culture in 19th Century Paris," taught by Marni Kessler — to starting her on her career path. "Art history became my everything," Gass says. "I even petitioned to take extra classes." Two especially memorable professors were Jonathan Crary '72, GSAS'87 and Rosalind Krauss; Krauss remained an important figure for Gass while she earned an M.F.A. at NYU's Institute of Fine Arts.

"Art history became the way that I learned world history," Gass says. "That was my lens, and then Lit Hum and Contemporary Civilization were touchstones that I wove through it. It was just an incredible, *incredible* experience for me."



COURTESY THE DAUBER/LEVIN COLLECTION

Mickalene Thomas' 2010 painting, *Love's Been Good to Me #2*, will be featured in the museum's front gallery.

Hunter's time at the Architecture School was equally influential. "I was drawn to the built world and to design; learning how architecture and thoughtful development can change neighborhoods really stuck with me," she says. "And now that translates to: 'How can a museum impact a community?'"

Gass and Hunter met when both were part of the senior leadership team of the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford, and both say their work at university museums was instructive. "I grew up in rural Oregon, and I never went to an art museum before college," Hunter says. "I think there's a tremendous opportunity to see the world through a different lens that a university art museum can have."

DA'SHAUNAE MARISA

BRYAN McDANIELS

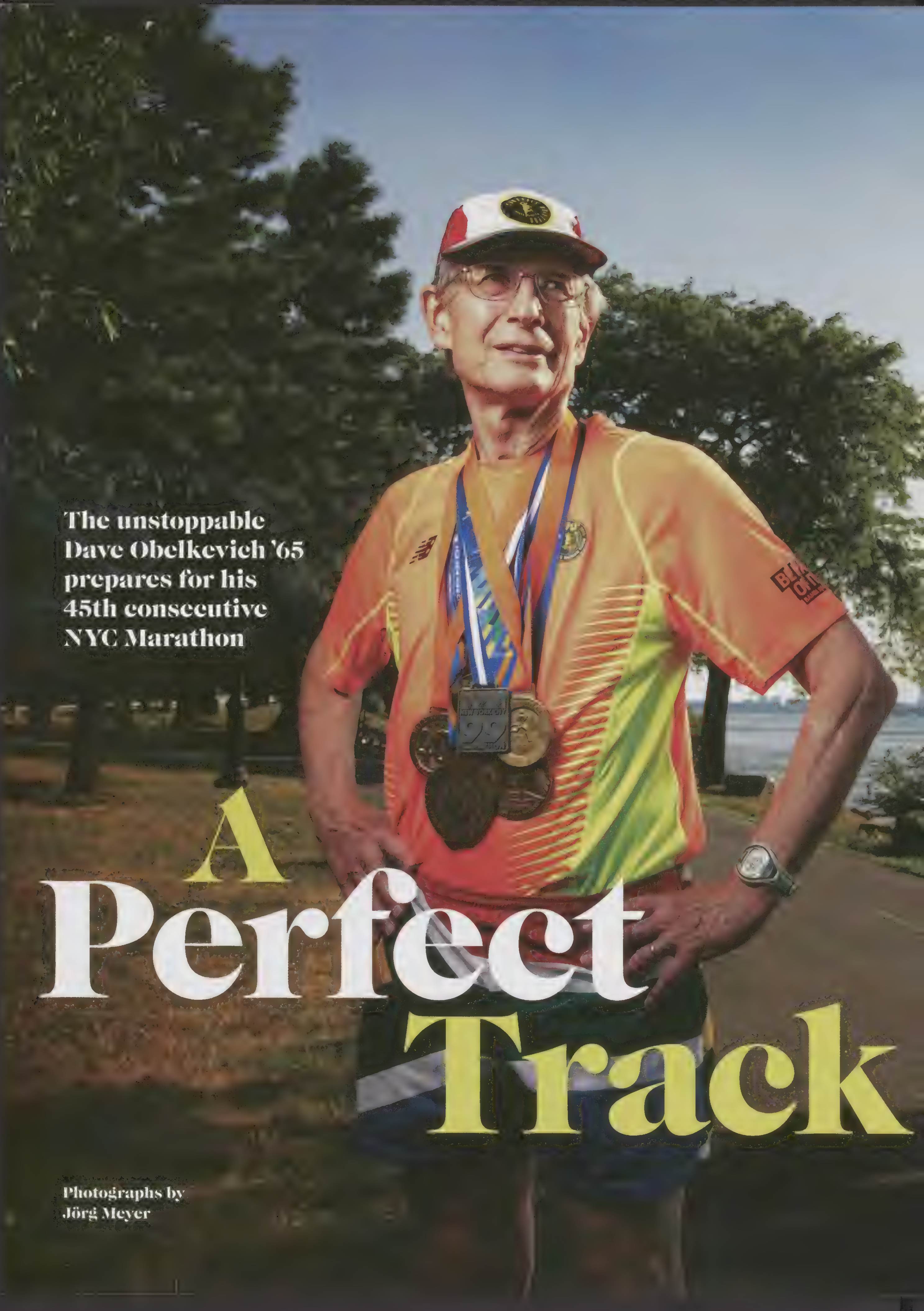
Guest curators Autumn Breon and Tahirah Rasheed

Gass adds that as a curator at both Stanford and Chicago, she relished having access to thinkers from every university department, and she is excited about bringing that interdisciplinary approach to ICA SF. For the Gibson exhibit, the curators are looking at partnering with the Ramaytush Ohlone tribe of Northern California, as well as with climatologists, to see what they can learn about the earth. "And we also want to get some input about economics, because Dogpatch has changed dramatically from a super-industrial area to a wealthy one because of its proximity to Silicon Valley," she says.

Despite the local affluence, ICA SF won't look that fancy on its opening day. Gass says that for timing and budget reasons, when the museum launches in September it will still look a little scrappy. "Sort of like a found building with art in it," she says with a laugh.

"We started out so fast, like a rocket, but so much of what Jonna and I know about museums hasn't even begun to be put to use yet," Gass adds. "We remind ourselves all the time that this does not have to spring fully formed from the head of Zeus.

"Those of us in 2022 don't have a lot of cultural reference for museums starting, but we're doing it," Gass continues. "So I think there are some lessons that we'd like to hold on to and take with us as we move into being a museum that lives and breathes." And evolves. Because in order to remain the most contemporary contemporary art institution, ICA SF must be, as Gass says, "always under construction."



A Perfect Track

The unstoppable Dave Obelkevich '65 prepares for his 45th consecutive NYC Marathon

Photographs by Jörg Meyer

Record

By Eugene L. Meyer '64

If all goes as planned, on Sunday, November 6, Dave Obelkevich '65, TC'67 will participate in his 45th consecutive New York City Marathon, extending the record for the longest streak in the event's 52-year history. He is not the fastest — he has never finished first — but he is still one for the books.

Obelkevich is 79, an age when it's fair to say many of his peers have slowed down. He's had to as well, in his way. This year he will alternately run and walk the 26.2-mile course through the five boroughs. Last year, he walked the *entire* 26.2 miles. It took him 7 hours, 29 minutes and 39 seconds.

Slowly, he is making concessions to age and time. An unexpected aneurysm in his left leg two years ago nearly ended his marathon streak and his running career. But since Covid-19 canceled the annual event in 2020, he was able to take time to recover without missing a beat. As much as the competition, he loves the camaraderie. "No way is he going to miss that," says his wife, Lyn Dominguez. "It's like a party for him."

The couple met in Central Park on Easter Sunday 1984 — running, of course. At 81, Dominguez walks and runs daily; she has also run in the NYC classic. About two-thirds of their friends are either runners or cyclists, Dominguez says. Her daughter, Maria Finch, elaborates: "There is a whole crowd of people in Central Park they've greeted for 30 years. It's part of their network. They're very much a part of the community."

So, what makes Dave Obelkevich run? "I enjoy running. I enjoy seeing old friends, making new friends," he says. "It's healthy. It's good for my body. It's not an expensive hobby unless you get injured."

"He likes the challenge," Finch adds. "He loves the connections. He's made so many through running, including meeting my mom. It just feels good. It's a way to relax and enjoy life. For him, I think it's a way of living."

And his enthusiasm is contagious. "He shares that joy with everyone he meets in Central Park or in races around the world," Finch says. "He's amazing at encouraging people. Anyone who's starting out and needs pointers, Dave's the one to talk to."

Obelkevich is a trim 142 pounds and stands 5 feet 8 inches. The secret to his diet? Seafood, perhaps: "I see food, I eat it," he jokes. "He could be eating all day long, but I don't think he's ever going to gain any weight," says Connie Brown, 78, a Sarasota, Fla., real estate agent who holds the women's record for consecutive NYC marathons, with 42 under her belt.

Obelkevich's streak began in 1976, the year the marathon, organized annually by New York Road Runners, expanded to all five boroughs. He has also frequented South Africa's Comrades Marathon, which at 55.9 miles is technically an ultramarathon (tag line:

"Anyone who's starting out and needs pointers, Dave's the one to talk to."

"the ultimate human race") — and he was the first American to complete it 10 times. Runners who reach that milestone are awarded a permanent number that appears on their green Comrades bib; his is 48,500. He has also run the Boston Marathon eight times.

But he is not, Obelkevich insists, a "marathon maniac." He was an NYC high school music teacher for 27 years and has been playing the violin since third grade. He currently plays in a string quartet three or four times a week. And he loves astronomy, and solar eclipses. He's observed six of them — from Aruba to Iwo Jima to Florida — and is eagerly anticipating "a pretty long one" in northern Mexico in 2024. (Obelkevich had actually planned to double major in astronomy and math until his College advisor, seeing his grades, urged a change.)

As a teenager he did not seem destined to become a runner, much less a marathon streak holder. He had joined the track team in his senior year of high school in Johnson City, which adjoins Binghamton along New York's Southern Tier. "I was given a 10-second head start to run around the track, and then they would all catch up to me," he recalls.

When the NYC Marathon began in 1970, it was just four loops around Central Park; there were only 127 runners, of whom 55 finished. The course was half a mile from Obelkevich's Upper West Side apartment. "I could always walk home from the finish line," he says. So one day, by then a regular jogger, he joined in without registering. The first year he officially participated, 1974, he finished 221st out of 259 runners and maintained a pace of 9 minutes and 56 seconds per mile.

In 1976, the year his streak began, he finished in 3 hours and 22 minutes, making him 690th of 1,539. His fastest time came six marathons later, in 1982: 2:40:34, a 6.07 per mile pace, placing him 394th out of 13,566. In 2021, the year he walked, he had his slowest race, at 17:09 minutes per mile. That placed him 24,604 out of 24,950 runners. But he finished.

Through the years, there have been a few bumps along the road. In 1997, he broke two ribs in a cycling accident a month before the marathon. He raced anyway: "I just couldn't run as fast."

Then, in 2010, Obelkevich rode the VIP bus to the starting point on Staten Island, only to discover there was just one running shoe in his bag. He thought he'd left the other on the bus, but no. He called his wife, who was running with a group up Harlem Hill in Central Park. Would she get the missing shoe from their apartment and meet him at mile eight, near Prospect Park in Brooklyn?

"Eventually, he came by," Dominguez says. "He had a big smile. He had a running shoe on one foot and a street shoe on the other."

Spectators had questions. "Haven't you heard?" Obelkevich told them. "It's the latest running style."

The aneurysm occurred in November 2020. He'd had pain before but nothing like this. Simply put, not enough blood was flowing into his left leg. "I thought I might lose my life, or maybe just my leg," he says. "I was really worried about that." His hospital room view of Central Park did not quite compensate for his pain and concern.

FINISHER
EVERY NYC MARATHON
1976-????
NO
AGE
LIMIT

"It was hard to see him laid up," Dominguez says. "But as soon as he could, he got out. He's extremely disciplined. He figured out a program: Go a short distance, add little bits to it. And things worked out."

Obelkevich spent two weeks and a day at Mount Sinai, including one week in the ICU. Miraculously, he made it to the 2021 marathon, notching his slowest pace but still beating his "anticipated" time by 30 minutes. Only 24,950 people ran and finished, compared to 53,520 in the pre-Covid 2019 event. But Obelkevich was among them.

How long does he plan to keep it up? "There is no time limit," he says.

Eugene L. Meyer '64 *is a former longtime* Washington Post *reporter and editor as well as the author, most recently, of* Five for Freedom: The African American Soldiers in John Brown's Army.

Mothers' Nature

Journalist Helena Andrews-Dyer '02 explores questions of motherhood, race and identity

Memoir has always been **Helena Andrews-Dyer '02**'s wheelhouse. She came of (writing) age during the personal essay boom of the late aughts, and her debut collection, *Bitch Is the New Black,* was published in 2010. When her daughter Sally was born in 2017, it felt only natural to take notes on what she was observing. "I can never just *experience*," Andrews-Dyer says with a laugh. And as a Black woman living in a gentrified area of Washington, D.C., there was a lot to contend with, especially once she joined a mom group of mostly white women.

Soon Andrews-Dyer was immersed in a world of baby music classes and ill-advised kid comparing, marathon text chains and the subtext that went with them. "I was always thinking, what does this say about the larger question of motherhood, or belonging and identity?" she says. "All of these things were swirling in my head."

Pregnant with Sally when President Trump was elected, Andrews-Dyer also had to face "the implications of raising a Black child in a world that had no qualms about wearing its racism on its sleeve." Four years later, the swirl of questions and concerns had only heightened against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic and George Floyd's murder. Then Andrews-Dyer's second daughter, Robyn, was born. Taking it all in, she realized she could turn her takes on purportedly post-racial parenting into a more layered account.

The result is *The Mamas: What I Learned About Kids, Class, and Race from Moms Not Like Me* (Crown, $27). "Telling the story of motherhood from a Black woman's perspective is something that doesn't happen often enough," says Andrews-Dyer, who is also a *Washington Post* reporter. "So just doing that was big in and of itself. But then I thought, let me put on my journalist hat and really dive deeper."

"The Mamas" of the title refers to several mom groups, the first and largest of which introduces her to the pleasures of conditional companionship, when "there is only one character trait that really matters — your tiny human proxy." But her joy at finding a space to connect is quickly tempered as she encounters ignorance and assumptive thinking. In one instance, the clocking of infant milestones — a common new parent pastime — becomes shot through with racist implications when one mom says to Andrews-Dyer, "Remember, you can't compare them." Later, Andrews-Dyer becomes indignant when, following the group's "BLM awakening," a mom creates a multi-tab spreadsheet of children's books with Black people in them. Andrews-Dyer sifts through her reactions: Was the spreadsheet ridiculous and performative? Better than nothing? Then, realizing that of 41 recommendations she owns just two, she turns her aim on herself: "Two! What did that say about me? How down was I, really?"

This internal conflict, the circumstances that ignite it and the questions it raises for Andrews-Dyer about her identity, give the book its drive. "Good memoir is about making yourself feel uncomfortable about the things you've dug into and discovered about yourself," she says.

She is also adept at making sense of her experiences in larger context, exploring topics like intensive mothering and school lottery systems, and how both intersect with class and race. She dedicates an entire chapter to the history of her Bloomingdale neighborhood, where racist restrictions on home buying were at one time literally written into the property deeds.

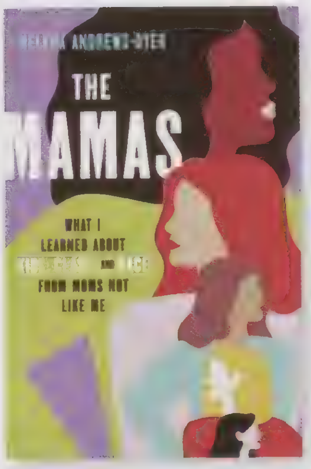
Andrews-Dyer's voice is a powerful instrument: She is fiercely honest, self-deprecating and funny as hell; she never shies from leaning into contradiction. She recalls how College writing professor Victor LaValle SOA'98 was the first to see her authentic self emerging on the page and encouraged her to keep going. (She majored in English literature with a concentration in creative writing.) After graduation, she did stints in New York City's magazine world before earning a master's in journalism from Northwestern and shifting to newspapers.

Andrews-Dyer says she hopes her story will validate other people's experiences, as well as promote conversation between mothers of different backgrounds, "whatever those be — different racial backgrounds, socioeconomic backgrounds, the married mom versus the single mom." Motherhood can provide powerful community, she adds, but "we sometimes assume, 'well, we're all moms, we're all struggling in the same way or thriving in the same way.' And that's not true. It's important to understand that we are not all coming from the same place and we didn't get here the same way."

In this excerpt, Andrews-Dyer finds herself in a moment of peak stress and exhaustion, contemplating her relationship to a small group of women she'd become closer with, the self-styled "Super Cool Moms." In embracing the outlet that their company provides, she can't help but ask what it means about herself.

— Alexis Boncy SOA'11

JARED SOARES



How do we define our own me-ness? Is it always drawn outside the lines of others? Measuring myself up against all the alleged "good mom tropes" strolling through the neighborhood obviously wasn't working. It had stressed me out so much that my thyroid, an organ (?) I previously wasn't sure I even had, was basically telling me, "Bitch, you need to pump the brakes." Add to that mental breakdowns, Covid, pneumonia. Girl, if anyone needed an Rx for a chill pill, it was me. Instead of running myself ragged about what kind of mother I was, why not just admit there was no blueprint? I was becoming whatever mother, whatever person, I was supposed to be. Your authentic self doesn't arrive via stork, you have to search it out yourself.

Once, the godmother of *Becoming* and mom-in-chiefing, *the* Michelle Obama, personally gave me some advice that I promptly ignored.

This was right before Rob and I got married. I was covering a fancy-pants event at a super-swank house in Washington. My plan was to get in, take some notes, and then get out with enough time to watch an *Angel* rerun. When I got wanded by Secret Service in the garage I figured maybe Valerie Jarrett was there, or even Second Lady Jill Biden, whom I'd met before. That is not a humblebrag, promise. Once I got inside and had a glass of champagne, the gorgeous and tall Black woman with the perfect bounce to her hair didn't immediately register as the woman whose entire existence served as my vision board. I just thought, *I have to ask that lady where she got that haircut. And that dress. And that nail color. And that general aura of amazingness.*

"Can you believe she came," whispered my friend Aba, who sidled up to me with her iPhone already in camera mode.

"Who?" I was still feverishly taking notes in my own phone and barely looking up.

"The First Lady, girl!"

I played it cool for the next hour and a half, because who wants to be the yokel who gets gunned down while attempting to hug Michelle Obama? The plan was to look normal by taking more notes, while secretly recording everything Mrs. Obama did. 8:20: FLOTUS laughs like a human being. 8:22: FLOTUS's arms are not a myth. 8:27: FLOTUS continues to walk on earth and has yet to ascend to the heavens. And so on.

It was Aba who made me actually talk to her. I was trying to blend in near a sofa, ready to sneak a picture for her, when I looked up and was suddenly being introduced.

"... and this is Helena Andrews," Aba said, graciously pulling me into the conversation.

"You look familiar," said the First Freaking Lady of these United States to yours truly. "I think we've met before."

After recovering from a mild seizure, I managed to say something like, "Ah, no, um, I don't think so. I write for *The Post* so maybe ..."

She looked suspicious when I mentioned I was a reporter (damn it!), but her smile came back almost immediately. She then rubbed my arm, which I immediately vowed to smell later. The only thing I could think to ask her about was my impending marriage. I figured whatever advice she gave me would last a lifetime; plus if anything went wrong, I could always say, "Well, Michelle Obama made me do it" and all would be forgiven.

"Hmmm, that's a longer conversation over cocktails," said Mrs. Obama (if she had invited me to cosmos on my actual wedding day, I would have canceled the whole damn thing). "But most important, make sure you're always your authentic self. If you try too hard to be someone you're not, it won't work. That's what's sustained Barack and I for all these years."

I nodded like an idiot and listened more as she told me not to "trip on the wedding" even if one of my girlfriends showed up in the wrong thing. "It's just one day."

What stuck was her commandment to be my authentic self. This was a direct command from the forever First Lady. To ignore it would be treason. But just who the heck was she, my authentic self, that is? I noodled the question for years after that night. In the years since, I'd become a wife and a mother. I was a daughter and friend. Did I know exactly what those versions of me looked like or had the mugshots changed over time? Perhaps all the exhaustive work I was doing to raise perfect children and be the perfect mother was just another way to hide that authentic self, to bury her under expectations that didn't matter to anyone, not even me when I really thought about it. If that was the case then the Mamas, the Super Cool Moms, all of them, weren't women to necessarily emulate or even be embarrassed by. We held up mirrors to each other even if the reflections weren't always the same.

Maya Angelou once said, "We have to confront ourselves." Me, myself, and I were due for a face-to-face-to-face. What I realized eventually is that the fantasy that fueled my twenties? I'd needed that. We all do. I needed to feel like the invincible heroine in a silk headscarf fighting off evil questions about why I hadn't found a man. As the years stacked up, I had dreamt up another fantasy to pull me through the next decade. This one filled with babies and momming so hard. And now that picture needed some serious retouching, somehow reconciling it with the old ones. To really confront who I was as a mother, a Black mother, I'd have to give birth yet again. The emotional labor pains were the worst but my authentic self was in there somewhere.

From the book THE MAMAS: What I Learned About Kids, Class, and Race from Moms Not Like Me by Helena Andrews-Dyer. Copyright © 2022 by Helena Andrews-Dyer. Published by arrangement with Crown, an imprint of Random House, a division of Penguin Random House LLC.

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AUTUMN VIBES

There's nothing like sitting on Low Steps, enjoying the crisp fall air. Whether it's catching up with friends, doing some al fresco studying or just relaxing, the changing leaves on campus are the perfect setting for a chill afternoon.

SCOTT RUDD

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Looking Back and Looking Forward

By Ted Schweitzer '91, LAW'94

Time has flown since I became president of the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA) in July 2020. As I near the end of my term, I cannot help but edge toward the philosophical. What in us has surfaced during this extraordinary time in the College's rich history? What did the pandemic tell us about ourselves as a community and as a place of higher learning? The challenges we faced, though varied and, indeed, formidable, did not negate our shared desire to come together in search of the good. As former dean of students Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74 once rightly said, we might all be flawed individuals forming a flawed corps, yet on balance we remain a force of good. What I like most about our association is the ideal of *In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen* — that our communal spirit transcends our more selfish pursuits, if only in our best moments.

This particular moment brings a new College leader. We look forward to the continued success of the College under Dean Josef Sorett, who — as a member of the Columbia community since 2009 — is no stranger to College Walk. Dean Sorett is a distinguished scholar and professor in the Departments of Religion, and African American and African Diaspora studies. He is also a devoted teacher of undergraduates; his courses, which include sections in the Core Curriculum, African-American Studies and music, are wildly popular. (At Commencement in May, he received a Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching.) Dean Sorett has only just begun to get to know the alumni community, but from my own interactions with him, I can attest to his warmth, curiosity and intelligence, and his demonstrated devotion to College students. I was one of a small group of alumni who comprised the new dean search committee, and for me, Dean Sorett was the clear choice from the start.

This change in leadership comes on the heels of controversial recommendations made by a University task force that could alter the dean's role — we believe, to the detriment. The alumni community has been galvanized. In the spring, members of the CCAA Board of Directors met with Board of Trustees leadership about the issue and sent a letter to the full Trustees board. The CCAA representatives were joined by a chorus of other voices, including those of current students through a Columbia College Student Council resolution, advocating for the continued importance of a strong and well-resourced College. However, our work is not over. Thank you to the alumni who have stepped up to register their concern, and who steadfastly support a thriving College and its place at the heart of the University.

COURTESY TED SCHWEITZER '91, LAW'94

Schweitzer at Convocation 2021.

As Columbia looks to usher in a new University president in July, I ask that you carry that banner with renewed vigor. My hope is that President Lee C. Bollinger's successor will also view a vibrant College as a University benefit; and that they will champion the College in both word and deed. A beneficial new president will continue to support a culture of meritocracy, freedom of expression with mutual respect that encompasses all students and belief in scientific inquiry. Indeed, the Core Curriculum exemplifies Columbia's search not just for knowledge but also for meaning.

Looking back, I have appreciated the generosity of alumni during the last two years, both in terms of volunteer time and resources. Although the economy has been unpredictable, alumni giving continues to be nothing short of remarkable. Thank you.

Looking forward, I encourage alumni to strengthen the College by mentoring or hosting students for dinner, interviewing applicants and coming back for reunion. I particularly hope they reconnect with the College through its intellectual programming in what will be the first full year of in-person events and programming since 2020. I am proud to say that during this academic year, the CCAA will convene a new alumni-faculty committee to foster deeper relationships and communication between College alumni and faculty; I anticipate the offerings will be more robust than ever.

On a personal note, I hope to see many of you (in the flesh!) at Homecoming on Saturday, October 22. My daughter, Claire '24, with some measure of surprise said, "Dad, wow, my peers come up just to meet you." Help me make her proud of her old pa and keep tapping my shoulder. It's been a perk of the job!

Wishing the very best, and please never stop imagining.

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Hops and Hopes for Pam Pradachith-Demler ’04

By Anne-Ryan Sirju JRN’09

On Valentine’s Day 2020, **Pam Pradachith-Demler ’04** and her husband, Brett Demler (who entered the College with the Class of 2002), opened the doors to Bound by Fate Brewing, the first brewery in the small upstate town of Schuylerville, N.Y. (pop. 1,408). Less than a month later, the pandemic shuttered the doors of their historic 1860s building: “We had a choice to make,” says Pradachith-Demler. “Get really angry, or keep smiling and pivot.”

They chose to pivot. The brewery was originally opened to serve the beer that Demler creates in the couple’s barn (Pradachith-Demler is CEO of Bound by Fate’s operations while Demler is head brewer; Demler’s brothers, Evan and Ryan, also helped with the founding and opening). When Covid-19 hit, they borrowed a crowler (a 32-ounce aluminum can) machine and started canning their beers; they were later gifted one of their own to help them keep up with sales. “We just set up a ‘ye olde lemonade stand’ outside the taproom and sold cans of beer as people drove by during the three months of shutdown to keep our lights on,” Pradachith-Demler says.

But that three months turned into more than just keeping the lights on. The couple realized that the world was changing, and the tiny taproom they had dreamed of needed to change, too. They used the lockdown time to expand Bound by Fate’s interior so they could meet social distancing guidelines, tripling the brewery’s indoor seating capacity by expanding into the building next door and adding a back deck.

When restrictions lifted, they started serving bar snacks alongside beer in the newly expanded space. But the Laotian-American Pradachith-Demler wanted more, and decided to bring some of her Southeast Asian culture to Schuylerville. Her sister, Seng Luangrath, a two-time James Beard Award nominee, visited from Washington, D.C., in March 2021 and hosted a weekend pop-up in the brewery serving Laotian food; there were lines out the door. Seeing the community’s interest, Pradachith-Demler and Demler built a kitchen and hired a chef. The brewery’s restaurant, Haan Lao, opened a year later to rave reviews in the local news and has been drawing crowds ever since as New York State’s only Laotian restaurant outside of New York City.

Pradachith-Demler was born in a refugee camp and grew up in Berkeley, Calif. She and Demler met at a play in Brooklyn through mutual College friends and shared an instant connection; they moved to the West Coast in 2009 but felt called back to New York. In 2016, they stumbled upon the perfect house for their growing family (they now have three young children) in Demler’s hometown of Schuylerville. The couple kept an eye out for a place where they could open a taproom and, in 2019, found a spot just blocks from their house.

As part of the licensed New York Farm Brewery program, Bound by Fate uses local hops and other grown-in-New York State produce in all of its products (like the raspberries in Pradachith-Demler's favorite beer, the TART'LiT sour ale). In exchange for supporting the area's agriculture and farming infrastructure, they are given licenses to sell other New York State products, creating a supportive, symbiotic relationship with local farmers and businesses. "The New York State legislation was the reason we came back here to open the brewery; we really believe in it as a policy stance," she says. "It provided a great opportunity for craft beer."

Pradachith-Demler laughs when asked what's next, saying they've plowed through their five-year plan in their first two years. But the couple has no plans to slow down; they used pandemic relief funds to invest in a larger brewing system made by a local steel company. Once installed, it will dramatically increase their capacity. "It's about welcoming people into our family," Pradachith-Demler says of their success. "We're brewing the beer that we like to drink and serving the food that we like to eat in a space that's like our living room."

Wayne Ting '06's Electric Journey

By George Spencer

Wayne Ting '06 knows what it's like to ride a rollercoaster. Just as Covid-19 hit, he became CEO of Lime, an international e-bike/e-scooter-sharing startup founded in 2017. As the world went into lockdown, the company's revenues plummeted like an amusement park attraction, falling 90 percent.

"It was an absolutely challenging time," recalls Ting. He had to suspend service in 100 of Lime's 250 cities and lay off 100 workers, nearly 15 percent of the workforce. "I had to keep the faith and keep fighting through, because there were definitely many days where it looked very bleak and very dark." The company came close to running out of cash. But late last year Lime raised $523 million in investments from big names like Uber and Fidelity, and things are beginning to look up.

And Lime's success is good news for the environment. According to the company's market research, the average Lime trip produces less than 7 percent of the carbon emissions of an equivalent car trip, and as many as 40 percent of Lime trips would have been in cars. (The company's name, aside from being a slight hat tip to Apple's fruity moniker, reflects its core mission to help the environment.) "Climate change is worsening faster than expected, and we're getting close to the point of no return. Cars are the number 1 source of carbon pollution in the United States. We absolutely cannot continue on the path of using cars as the primary mode of transportation," says Ting.

His entrepreneurial zeal first showed itself at the College, where he co-founded the social networking venture CU Community, later known as Campus Network. It launched in 2003 — six months before Facebook — and most Columbia students soon had accounts. But Facebook was easier to use, a fact that helped doom his service. Looking back on what he learned from the experience, Ting says, "Ideas are cheap. Execution is everything. You've got to meet your customers where they are."

After graduation, he landed at consulting powerhouse McKinsey & Co. and then at private investment giant Bain Capital. But he felt little passion in those roles. "If you don't believe in what you're doing, there are plenty of people way smarter than you who are going to outcompete you," he says. After earning an M.B.A. at Harvard, Ting realized he was "super happy" working in the Obama administration for less pay as a senior policy advisor on the National Economic Council.

COURTESY LIME

Today he provides what he calls "optimistic leadership" at Lime: "If you don't believe you can change the future, that today doesn't have to look like tomorrow, that our collective hard work can't change the course of what's to come, you're not going to make it."

That optimism has paid off: Lime has rocketed back to health since those early Covid lows. Trips are up 75 percent (back to 2019 levels), and Ting says that Lime's market share and margins are dramatically higher.

The son of Taiwanese immigrants, Ting sees parallels between his parents' journey and his risk-taking role running a new company. "You have to — without knowing what's on the other side — bet the farm, take a chance on yourself, keep fighting and believe tomorrow's going to be a better day," he says. "There's such optimism in every immigrant. I believe the American Dream is optimistic leadership. That is the heart of it."

George Spencer *is the former executive editor of* Dartmouth Alumni Magazine. *He lives in Hillsborough, N.C.*

The Golden Gate Guardian

By Anne-Ryan Sirju JRN'09

With more than 17.5 million annual visitors, California's Golden Gate National Recreation Area is one of America's most-visited National Parks. Its sprawling 82,791 acres encompass woodlands, beaches, wetlands and even Alcatraz Island. And when it comes to stewardship of the land (and the 37 endangered species of plants and animals that call it home), it's **Alison Forrestel '00,** GGNRA's chief of natural resource management and science, who is there to keep things running smoothly.

For Forrestel, no two days are the same. Her team could be removing invasive plants, monitoring the health of an endangered species, engaging the local community as volunteers or restoring a damaged ecosystem within the park. Nestled in a major urban center (GGNRA is actually a collection of sites that spans three counties in the San Francisco Bay Area), the park has given Forrestel a unique experience as a leader in the National Parks Department as she balances the needs of the wild park and the vibrant cityscape it calls home.

She is passionate about the GGNRA's native plant and animal species and is proud of the ecological wins her team have achieved, like the restoration of the Franciscan manzanita in the park. After a single Franciscan manzanita shrub — which was thought to be extinct in the wild — was found during routine brush clearing for a highway construction project, Forrestel's team launched a preservation effort using cuttings from botanical gardens to create plantings to join the lone wild shrub. Thirteen years later, the Franciscan manzanita is back, with roughly 100 shrubs growing in a self-sustainable colony in the Presidio and San Francisco sections of the park.

In addition to its diverse plant life, Forrestel says the park is also home to amazing wildlife, many of the species endangered, including the San Francisco garter snake ("one of the most endangered reptiles in North America — it's really pretty, with blue stripes on its sides," she says), Northern spotted owls, the Mission blue butterfly, Western monarch butterflies and Coho salmon.

Forrestel is leading efforts to support the growth of safe habitats for the latter two. For the Western monarch butterfly, this means making sure their food source, the park's milkweed plants, are maintained and thriving, as well as improving the habitats where the butterflies winter. The Coho salmon rescue effort, which began in 2019, is a huge undertaking in the park's Muir Woods section. Forrestel says that in the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps dug out and rerouted a creek where the Coho live, placing boulders along both sides so it wouldn't flood the park's visitor amenities. However, this intervention destroyed the deep, dark pools the Coho need to thrive; nearly 100 years later, Forrestel worries the fish are "on the brink of blinking out." She and her team are removing the boulders and working to restore the stream to its natural state, in the hopes that the Coho will again thrive.

PHOTOS COURTESY ALISON FORRESTEL '00

Forrestel majored in environmental biology at the College and says a semester spent "abroad" living in the Biosphere 2 in Arizona was wildly influential in her career path. She has been in her current role since 2018; prior to that she was the GGNRA's vegetation program lead for six years. Before that she spent eight years as a fire ecologist for the San Francisco Bay Area Parks, mitigating the damage caused to the local ecosystems by fires (and she still consults as a resource advisor during wildfire season). In 2021 Forrestel was deployed in response to the devastating KMP fire, which ripped through Sequoia National Park. "That was a really impactful experience because the fire was burning through giant sequoia groves — which should be able to tolerate fire — but, because of climate change, fires are burning hotter than they have in thousands of years," she says.

Pondering her role as an environmental steward, and what it means to work at a National Park, Forrestel notes, "I think what motivates people to take action to protect nature and our environment is ultimately the love and joy we all find from being outside. The parks are amazingly valuable because they give people opportunities to be immersed in nature and feel that connection to the natural world."

*book*shelf

HOLD, PLEASE
STAGE MANAGING A PANDEMIC
RICHARD HESTER
SALT & Honey
THE BIG LIE
ELECTION CHAOS, POLITICAL OPPORTUNISM, AND THE STATE OF AMERICAN POLITICS AFTER 2020
JONATHAN LEMIRE

The Spandau Complication *by Robert Orkand '56.* Orkand, a retired Army lieutenant colonel of infantry, sets this novel in Cold War-era Berlin, where U.S. Army major Harry Holbrook attempts to foil an assassination attempt (Casemate, $22.95).

Big Red: A Novel Starring Rita Hayworth and Orson Welles *by Jerome Charyn '59.* Hayworth has long been objectified as a pin-up girl; Charyn reimagines her career and evokes her emotional complexity (Liveright, $28).

Election Matters: Life on Universityworld *by Thomas Wm. Hamilton '60.* Hamilton, a retired professor of astronomy, tells the story of an intergalactic math teacher who escapes her repressive home planet (Strategic Book Publishing & Rights Agency, $11.50).

Saws, Planes and Scorps: Exceptional Woodworking Tools and Their Makers *by David Heim '64.* This exploration of essential woodworking instruments features descriptive text and photos, with stories of the artisans who make them (Princeton Architectural Press, $27.50).

Why The Gods Don't Get It *by Bill Christophersen '71.* Christophersen's latest collection of poetry considers the nature of suffering, from human violence and tragedy to the peaks and valleys of love (Kelsay Books, $19).

SUBMIT YOUR BOOK TO CCT

Alums! Have you written a book in the last year? Tell us about it!

college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_bookshelf

Explorers of Deep Time: Paleontologists and the History of Life *by Roy Plotnick '76.* An invertebrate paleontologist and professor emeritus at the University of Illinois, Plotnick offers a behind-the-scenes look at the complex field of paleontology (Columbia University Press, $35).

Chip Rock and the Catalina Kid *by Michael Daswick '79.* The sequel to *Chip Rock and the Fat Old Fart* tells the saga of Chip's lifelong friend Cal, an unsettled burger artist who attempts a daring 27-mile swim to California's Catalina Island (Playa Chica Press, $19.99).

Hold, Please: Stage Managing a Pandemic *by Richard Hester '84.* In a combination of journal entries, blog posts and essays, Hester, a longtime Broadway stage manager, describes the chaos that ensued when Covid-19 shut down the Great White Way (Sordelet Ink, $18.95).

Salt & Honey: Jewish Teens on Feminism, Creativity and Tradition *by Elizabeth Mandel '92.* In this collection, 62 Jewish girls, young women and nonbinary teens voice their celebrations and challenges in essays, poetry and art (Behrman House, $16.95).

You're Not a Vanity Purchase: Why You Shouldn't Feel Bad About Looking Good *by Dr. James Marotta '92.* Marotta dives deep into history, sociology and psychology to demonstrate why plastic surgery is a form of empowerment (Lioncrest Publishing, $15.99).

The Maverick Method: How to Win the Startup Game *by Matthew Swyers '93.* Originally a series of articles written for *Inc.* magazine, this step-by-step guide covers a range of topics about successfully launching a small business (Matthew H. Swyers, $19.95).

Bread and Freedom: Egypt's Revolutionary Situation *by Mona El-Ghobashy '95.* El-Ghobashy provides a new account of Egypt's 2011 revolutionary mobilization based on party manifestos, military communiqués, court decisions and more (Stanford University Press, $25).

The Legacy of Jim Crow *by Clarence A. Haynes '98.* This summation of legal racial segregation and its far-reaching effects in America is written for middle- or high-school history students (Penguin Workshop, $8.99).

The Big Lie: Election Chaos, Political Opportunism, and the State of American Politics After 2020 *by Jonathan Lemire '01.* MSNBC's Lemire details the paradigm-shifting years of Donald Trump's presidency and uncovers how Trump's near-constant lying has now become a fixture of political life (Flatiron Books, $29.99).

Impact: How Rocks from Space Led to Life, Culture, and Donkey Kong *by Greg Brennecka '02.* Brennecka, a scientist and cosmochemist, explains how meteors helped direct the development of human culture (William Morrow, $28.99).

Lulu and Milagro's Search for Clarity *by Angela Velez '10.* In this YA novel, two Latinx sisters who couldn't be more different become begrudging partners on their school's cross-country college trip (Balzer + Bray, $18.99).

— Jill C. Shomer

*class*notes

JENNA BASCOM PHOTOGRAPHY

Fall means back to school! Butler's many study rooms await a new generation of students.

1953

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

It was great to hear from four class members this time!

Ernest Chambers writes, "Retired after 50 years in the entertainment business. I now post a weekly blog on Substack about my experiences and the stars I have worked with. I also recently published a hardcover book for preschoolers (ages 2–6), *Smelvis,* about Smelvis, the Two-Scent Skunk. It's available on smelvistheskunk.com."

Richard Kleid LAW'55 writes, "Recently retired after 13 years on the Palm Beach (Fla.) Town Council, with three years as president. Also serve on several local civic associations and am a director thereof, as well as on the Allocation Committee of the Town of Palm Beach United Way. Played some tennis with a pro who hits back to me. No longer able to chase down balls. My wife, Rhoda BC'58, passed away a few years ago. Had lunch recently in New York City with **Frank Vitiello** LAW'55."

From Dr. **Saul Elkin** SOA'63: "At 90 I have recently retired as artistic director from Shakespeare in Delaware Park in Buffalo, N.Y., a company I founded now in its 47th season of free Shakespeare. I will continue to sit on the board and look forward to the years ahead."

William Campbell SEAS'54, who lives in Ashburn, Va., shared some memories: "The year was 1949 and I was ready to graduate from high school and be drafted into the

Korean War. But I received a letter from Dean Harry Carman that changed my life. He wrote that I had received a four-year scholarship and expected me to start in September 1949. That's when my Columbia memories started, which I would like to share with you.

"Meeting Dean Henry Coleman '46, who became my cherished mentor. Doing the Frosh Rush (with the absurd beanie) and the exercise to retrieve a sophomore-placed beanie on a greased pole on South Field. Watching out my Livingston Hall window as Naval ROTC drilled on South Field. Waiting for a 10 p.m. trumpet call to arms by **Howard Pettebone** that signaled all to gather in Van Am quad for a foregone doomed mission to 'panty raid' Barnard — all to the amusing eyes of the NYPD.

"The incredible headline one day in a *Spectator* parody along the lines of 'Barnard's Dean Millicent McIntosh Found in Bed with Gardner' (she was photographed in a garden bed of flowers!) that resulted in *Spec*'s discontinuance for quite a while.

"The introduction of a gallon of detergent into the crew's practice tank, with predictable horrific results.

"Using the Quad-facing window ledge of Livingston Hall as the winter fridge for Coke, OJ and Schlitz.

"Watching **Mitch Price** and **Al Ward** DM'62 come soooooo close to beating Army while center John Azary '51 was head-faking the cream of the Ivy League.

"Learning the secrets of the labyrinth of steam tunnels, which enabled one to open unmarked doors and traverse the buildings of the entire campus in winter without one step in the above-ground snow.

"Taking a special date to the Columbia Room at the Hotel Astor and dancing to The Ink Spots.

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of CCT prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of CCT, its class correspondents, the College or the University. By submitting to Class Notes, you acknowledge that the text is eligible to appear in print as well as on CCT Online and in archives.

"Late-night missions to The West End for a beer and a hot pastrami on rye.

"A winter afternoon spent setting up a complicated EE motor-generator experiment in Engineering Hall with a multitude of cables and meters; throwing the switch and watching coils of wires wrap themselves around the m-g axis, sending the meter table airborne with meters flying as bad things happened. And thereby shorting out the main campus switchboard and zapping the whole campus for an hour. Was anonymous until now.

"Celebrating spring with 'Hip, hip, hooray, it's the first of May; outdoor necking starts today.'

"As part of my scholarship, working in John Jay Dining Hall and being privileged to work banquets with University president Dwight D. Eisenhower delivering the evening speech.

"Performing physics lab experiments in Pupin Hall under the watchful eye of a guy, Leon Lederman Ph.D. GSAS'51, who just happened to continue on a trajectory to a Nobel Prize in subatomic physics.

"And lastly, the deep personal joy of getting to know the brilliant, witty, soulful, exuberant professor of philosophy and logic Charles Frankel '37, GSAS'46, who would challenge the young Campbell with 'Mr. Campbell (pointing to his watch), tell me why there are not little blue devils in here that are the real power making this watch work.' Alas, I was not up to the task ... but he made you think!

"It was a life-changing experience. Thank you, Dean Carman."

Please send us your latest news — or your memories — and we'll share them in a future issue. Write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1954

Bernd Brecher
brecherservices@aol.com

The Class of Destiny column is taking a hiatus this issue but will return in the Winter 2022–23 issue.

In the interim, we are saddened to announce the passing of **Joseph Blanc** GSAS'59 on April 23, 2022, and **Henry Clay Black II** on May 22, 2022. May their memories be a blessing.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
HN	Institute of Human Nutrition
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
PS	College of Physicians and Surgeons
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary

Be well, and do write.

1955

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

We were pleased to get three responses to our call for news!

Allen I. Hyman writes, "As I approach four score and 10, I am sad to note that so many of my friends are gone: Covid-19, cancer, cardio, trauma and other blights that befall us. This is my 15th year since I retired from Columbia University Irving Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital after practicing for 50 years. I can happily say that I have enjoyed these years of leisure: travel, biking, reading, family and seeing Columbia alums from time to time. My wife, Valerie, and I are blessed with eight grandchildren: Two attend Columbia and six are in high school and other colleges.

"Two awards are worth mentioning: I received an honorary degree from our university (D.Sc.) in 2017 and in the spring I was 'put on' The Wall of Distinction at James Madison H.S. in Brooklyn. I joined three U.S. senators, six Nobel laureates, one SCOTUS justice, a number of athletes and actors, and even Hon. Judy Scheindlin. I hope to see you in 2025 for our 70th reunion."

Bill Kronick shares, "Not much new to report on locally. Am still working on my seventh novel while tending to the progression of my son (30), in the 'industry.' He's presently advancing in the writers' room on the Warner Bros. *Superman & Lois* TV series. World events notwithstanding, I don't find all that bad!"

Evans Gerakas SIPA'59 writes, "I have lived with my sister, Ethel Gerakas, in the independent part of a continuing care community since October 2011."

Please send us your latest news and happenings, and we'll share them in a future issue. Write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1956

Robert Siroty
rrs76@columbia.edu

Alan Broadwin, **Dan Link** and **Ron Kapon** represented us in the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class

Day on May 17; we were the third-oldest class at the proceedings (see the nearby photo).

Arthur Rosen reports from Lafayette, Ind., that he is now Visiting Professor at the Center for Paralysis Research at Purdue, Professor Emeritus of Neurology at the Stony Brook University School of Medicine and clinical professor of neurology at Indiana University School of Medicine.

Ed Gordon writes from Westchester County that he has retired after 56 years in the practice of psychiatry.

Have received word of the June 5, 2019, passing of **Bob Cabat.**

1957

Herman Levy
hdlleditor@aol.com

We have news from two classmates and some thoughts from Reunion 2022.

Richard L. Berger: "Best things to report: I'm still here (!) and in fairly good health. Always single.

"After various jobs in academic institutions, including Columbia, I took a job in Southern California as a college counselor at a small, private high school.

"Then, I was an 'escort interpreter' for the Department of State. That involved working with people from all over the world in different disciplines who were visiting their U.S. counterparts. My travels included a large number of cities, including a few in Alaska and Hawaii.

"Full retirement came afterward. I live within two miles of the ocean, so the weather is moderate.

"I keep informed about Columbia via *Spectator* (for which I wrote about sports), many sporting events on TV and the internet.

"I don't miss NYC much.

"To some extent I'm unusual here; I have no car. I sold mine. Public transportation is adequate for my needs and wants."

Mac Gimse: "I've been working on a piece for the *War in the Ukraine* that is unfinished, but pulls together my poetic visions, called "Our Future is for the Yet Unborn," along with a bronze called *On Paths to Freedom*. It has been on my mind and in my hand since we saw the pic of Aylan Kurdi (2) washed ashore near Bodrum, Turkey. I've actually been in Bodrum several times with students and we swam on a beach nearby … ouch. We were cautious because of a serious undertow. It was daunting."

Our Future is for the Yet Unborn
Poetry and Sculpture by Mac Gimse

Dedicated to Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who is
Ready to sacrifice his life to save his people,
And for all who are displaced and who have
perished in the brutal battle of the Ukraine,
Please recite aloud: *Our future is for the yet unborn.*

My most urgent plea is for the yet unborn, how to keep each
child free from human harm, free from loss of home and proper
parenting, free from plunging into seas of refugees, then
washing up face down on beaches of bitter rejection.
Our future is for the yet unborn.

Instead, to be lifted up, to be nurtured by us, to grow in
wisdom and strength, learning that flashes of anger can never
be retrieved, then lead us into common ground where
soils are saturated by every mix of human blood …
Our future is for the yet unborn.

… and soaked down by human tears, that
we might, **as one human flesh**, sow our seeds
of peace with healing into fields of a gentler faith,
asking the God of all persuasions for permission.
Our future is for the yet unborn.
Now I want to sing out to the whole world the
sweet sounds of hearing the future burdens of
the yet unborn in their waking world, using
YOUR impressions, not just my own,
of how
                    and why
we live.
Our future is for the yet unborn.

Herman D. Levy comments on the Reunion 2022 lecture "Contemporary Civilization: Reading Politics … and the Politics of Reading":

Representing the Class of 1956 at the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day on May 17 were (left to right) Alan Broadwin, Dan Link and Ron Kapon.

"Outstanding among the many events of reunion, held June 9–12, was a lecture by Professor Courtney Bender, of the Department of Religion, a scholar of religion in American life. I have set forth excerpts from her material on her seven topics.

First, she discussed a letter from Niccolo Machiavelli to Francesco Vettori (1513):

"This letter describes Machiavelli's life after his exile from Florence by the Medici. Francesco Vettori was a friend and well-placed ambassador in Rome, from whom Machiavelli sought assistance in his search for work."

Second, Professor Bender discussed excerpts from Martin Luther's "Preface to the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans" (1522). She reprinted her excerpts "by permission of the publisher from *The Reformation 42 Writings of Martin Luther, volume II, The Spirit of the Protestant Reformation,* translated and edited by Bertram Lee Woolf (London, Lutterworth Press, 1956), pp, 284-300."

In view of the above caveat, I have not quoted from her excerpts.

Third, Professor Bender quoted from René Descartes' *Meditations on First Philosophy:*

"I have already slightly touched on those two questions of God and the human soul in the Discourse on the Method of rightly conducting the Reason and seeking truth in the Sciences, published in French in the year 1637. Not that I had the design of treating these with any thoroughness, but only so to speak in passing, and in order to ascertain by the judgment of the readers how I should treat them later on. For these questions have always appeared to me to be of such importance that I judged it suitable to speak of them more than once; and the road which I follow in the explanation of them is so little trodden, and so far removed from the ordinary path, that I did not judge it to be expedient to set it forth at length in French and in a Discourse which might be read by everyone, in case the feebler minds should believe that it was permitted to them to attempt to follow the same path."

Fourth, Professor Bender turned to Immanuel Kant, on *What is Enlightenment?* (1784):

"Enlightenment is man's emergence from his self-imposed nonage. Nonage is the inability to use one's own understanding without another's guidance. This nonage is self-imposed if its cause lies not in lack of understanding but in indecision and lack of courage to use one's own mind without another's guidance. *Dare to know! (Sapere aude.)* 'Have the courage to use your own understanding,' is therefore the motto of the enlightenment."

Fifth, Professor Bender cited Mary Wollstonecraft, with an excerpt from *The Vindication of the Rights of Woman:*

"Another instance of that feminine weakness of character, often produced by a confined education, is a romantic twist of the mind, which has been very properly termed sentimental.

"Women subjected by ignorance to their sensations, and only taught to look for happiness in love, refine on sensual feelings, and adopt metaphysical notions respecting that passion, which lead them shamefully to neglect the duties of life and frequently in the midst of these sublime refinements they plump into actual vice."

Sixth, Professor Bender cited David Walker's *Appeal,* in four articles:

"Together with a preamble, to the coloured citizens of the world, but in particular, and very expressly, to those of the United States of America, written in Boston, State of Massachusetts - September 28, 1829."

Seventh, and finally, Professor Bender cited Friedrich Nietzsche, excerpt from Preface to *On the Genealogy of Morals:*

"If this book is incomprehensible, to anyone and jars on his ears, the fault, it seems to me, is not necessarily mine. It is clear enough, assuming, as I do assume, that one has first read my earlier writings and has not spared some trouble in doing so: for they are, indeed, not easy to penetrate.

"[footnote] ... Sils-Maria, Upper Engadine, July 1887"

1958

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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So the country is back to normal now that the pandemic is over? Not really. To begin with, it's not over! As I write this column at the end of June, the country has apparently settled into a new phase of the pandemic: More people than ever seem to have tested positive but the hospitalization and death rates are much lower than recorded previously. A good sign? Let's hope so.

This spring was successful for Columbia sports: The baseball team won its fifth Ivy League title in the last 10 years, a notable achievement. The team played well in the subsequent NCAA regional playoffs, winning two games before bowing out; this is only the third time an Ivy League team has done that well in the current format, and two of those times it was a Lions team that did it. Not to be slighted, the lightweight crew won its third national championship in a decade. Both accomplishments are much appreciated by the Lion faithful!

The mailbag includes a letter from George Coleman '60 reminiscing about the life of **Roderick Durkin** GSAS'64, who passed away earlier this year. George writes, "Those of us who knew him were aware that he was marching to his own drummer. That never changed."

Rod was a psychology major, rowed on the heavyweight crew, was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and earned a Ph.D. in social psychology from Columbia. He created wilderness camps for troubled youth in Vermont and Colorado. He developed a model of therapy in a non-competitive, working community, which impacted many lives. He became a prolific contributor to professional journals in the field of residential treatment.

George added, "Rod lived much of his life alone, always on the move, always searching, renouncing conventional materialism, calling out hypocrisy where he saw it and advocating for social justice. His was not an easy life, but he lived it fully and with integrity."

Our condolences to Rod's daughter, grandchildren and goddaughter (George's daughter), and we thank George for his contribution to our Class Notes.

1959

Norman Gelfand
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CCT has reduced the number of allowed words in the printed version of Class Notes to 1,200, so I had to edit some of the submissions. My apologies.

Ben Miller '59 (left) and his wife, Pat, joined Phil Matthews '59 for a meal at a French restaurant in the Washington, D.C., area in the late spring.

Phil Matthews, Ben Miller GSAS'65 and Ben's wife, Pat, had a delightful dinner together at a French restaurant in the D.C. area. (See the nearby photo.) They had a great time reminiscing about their two years together as roommates in Hartley, and since, especially as their other roommate, **Dave Clark,** passed on several years ago. Phil says, "We were a good team, [recalling] taking a jar of green olives to football games to keep our dates distracted, Ben's skills on the wrestling mat and our love of the Columbia experience. Pat is just as beautiful as when we met, more than 64 years ago. Ben and Pat celebrated 61 years of marital bliss on June 3. Ben and Pat have moved from their home in Avenel (Bethesda, Md.) to an independent living facility and are enjoying the successes of their exceptionally talented grandchildren. Phil has retired to Fort Myers, Fla., and is proud of his granddaughter, who graduated with honors from CC."

Ben and Pat report that their grandson, Bennett, Ben's namesake, graduated on June 4 from Chicago with a B.A. in history summa cum laude and an M.A. in social science, both in four years. And most importantly, he is a fine and caring young man.

Gil Wright tells us, "How I survived the pandemic: I had Meals on Wheels delivered to my house, 14 frozen meals ready to microwave, each Tuesday. Each day I took a MOW to the house of a friend, Janet, a mile away, to have lunch with her. Janet prepared the salad. Then we worked jigsaw puzzles for a while. After that we watched a free Metropolitan Opera broadcast on an iPad or a smart TV, a different opera each day. Each evening, I went home and came back the next day. Repeat. Repeat. Repeat.

"In December, I moved to an independent living apartment in Asbury Methodist Village in Gaithersburg, Md., and Janet comes every Sunday to have an Asbury-prepared meal with me."

From **Ken Scheffel** we hear, "I remain in contact with **Bennet Silverman** and **Mort Klevan.** Thanks to Covid-19 restrictions, I feel as if I've lost two years of my life. Gradually, I'm getting caught up. Last year, I attended a Covid wedding celebration (the actual marriage occurred a year earlier; unfortunately, in the interim, both the best man and groom's father died of Covid), which ended in a cruise on the Ohio, and a Covid memorial gathering, at which I served as one of the eulogists for a good friend from the University of Michigan, who died during the pandemic, but not from the virus. Now, since age is beginning to take its toll on me, I'm planning to move to a retirement home.

"P.S. I lost one Columbia friend, **Wally Katz,** to the virus, which he contracted in a New York nursing home while he awaited eye surgery. As far as I know, all the rest of my Columbia friends avoided it."

Luis Stephens (né Louis) informs us, "On April 28, I joined fellow fencers **Steve Buchman** and **Ben Janowski** for a celebration dinner in Low Library recognizing this year's fencing accolades.

"It was a large and impressive gathering and notable in that this sport, at Columbia, has by far the most outstanding record of accomplishments, outpacing any other athletics activity! No other sport comes near to fencing by even half of what we have done consistently during the last 100 years. Prizes were received all around. Olympic athletes were mentioned and included, as well. It is one thing to do well in a sport in college. Quite another to compete and win on an international stage such as the Olympics. THAT IS COLUMBIA FENCING!

"On another note, my wife, Karen, and I are doing well, she in her writing and me in my painting, and celebrating our first grandkid, a girl named Rio. We are sizzling proud."

Stephen Basson informs us, "My wife, Mary, and I celebrated our 54th anniversary this past July. We live quietly in Milwaukee except when we visit the 'kids' — our three boys are happily married and doing well in today's very unsettled USA. My youngest daughter-in-law graduated from Columbia with a degree in history only 53 years after I managed the same trick.

"After 40 years as a professional orchestra player (bassoon), I still love reading, thinking and listening to music and its endless charms. This fall I will give a short series of talks at a retirement home on music and words, with a syllabus that will go from Monteverdi to Gershwin. Enthusiasm counts for a lot when you share your love for music, and I am always a bit embarrassed that I enjoy my presentations as much as anyone in the room. …

"On every visit to NYC, I see my brother Geoff '60, and I try to see **David Wyner**. I count Columbia as one of the blessings of my life, and I expect that many of us do."

Steve Trachtenberg is busy as usual. "I'm working with a trainer two days a week and can get up off the floor now, or rather once again. Planning to go to Madrid and London. I'm going to wear my mask and avoid inhaling. The last time I was in Spain I ran into **Riordan Roett** in the Ritz Hotel bar."

From **George Mann** GSAPP'62, "First of all, I am most thankful and fortunate to still be around. It has been quite a ride for us all!

"Most importantly, I have two children, Daniel Jonathan (54) and Deborah Karen (52). Daniel and his wife, Sabrina, are attorneys and have a son, Derek Elliot, and a daughter, Juliet Rose, so am also a proud grandfather. Daniel is a product liability attorney in Philadelphia, and Deborah is associate director of the Professional Master of Business Administration Program in the Mays College of Business at Texas A&M University. I am very proud of all of them and so thankful for the miracle of seeing my children and grandchildren grow up. All are a source of tremendous wonder and satisfaction.

"Before entering the Class of '59, I studied art and architecture at the High School of Music & Art. Originally, I thought of studying medicine, in order to help people, but I also loved to draw and build models. I don't think I could have handled the sciences and the blood and guts, so I found something that is related and that I love doing, that is, designing medical facilities."

George has much more to tell us, but it will have to wait for the next issue, as I have reached our limit.

If you don't get my emails please send me your email address. I do not share them without your permission. Please also send it to the Alumni Office (college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info).

Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name: **college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.**

1960

Robert Machleder
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Tom Hamilton, author of six books on astronomy, has now produced his sixth book of fiction, *Election Matters: Life on Universityworld.* It is a science fiction thriller with intersecting plot lines: a mathematics professor decides to run for political office, seeking a seat in the third house of a four-house planetary legislature; another political aspirant, a chap of dubious integrity running on the theme "Make Universityworld Galaxy's Greatest" and employing the acronym "MUGG" as its campaign slogan and signature, seeking control of the fourth house, using tactics devised and executed by his unscrupulous aide, Julius. The parody is apparent and this pair is readily identifiable.

Thirteen years ago *CCT* featured **Sheldon Barr** in its Alumni Profiles as a renowned expert in the field of Venetian art glass. Sheldon, now in his own words, traces the journey that brought him from the College to the pinnacle of prominence in the world of art. "I entered the College as a pre-med but soon realized that my true fascination was in the world of the arts. After graduation I took a year off and in 1962 matriculated in the Architecture School. The first year was fantastic, but the second was not what I thought it would be. It dealt with complex engineering problems such as the strength of materials. I wanted to be an architect, not a structural engineer.

"I audited Jane Gaston Mahler's course in Asian art at Barnard. I had special permission from the College's Dean of Men to do so, but I would not earn credits. That was fine — no credits meant no exams. Later I took a job at the Asia Society helping the curator mount exhibits.

"When my father passed away in 1967 I inherited some money and decided to go into business for myself. From 1967 to 1976 I mounted a gallery in New York specializing in Art Deco furniture, objets d'art, paintings, sculpture and jewelry. It was the first such gallery in the United States and it attracted clients like Barbra Streisand and Andy Warhol. Barbra and I soon became friends and she visited me when my partner, Thomas Gardner, and I opened a gallery in Paris (1976–80) that specialized in 19th- and early 20th-century French art nouveau and art deco furniture, ceramics and art glass, concentrating on the glass of Emile Gallé and René Lalique. We enjoyed living in France, but in 1980 decided it was time to go home.

"From 1980 to 1987 we exhibited at prestigious antiques shows throughout the United States. Bored and exhausted with being on the road, we mounted a gallery from 1987 to 1993 at Place des Antiquaires in New York. We focused on Art Nouveau and Art Deco furniture, objects d'art and Tiffany Studios lamps. Later we opened a second gallery at the same venue specializing in late 19th- and early-20th century French and Italian furniture, objets d'art, sculpture and paintings. In 1993, we began specializing in late 19th- and early 20th-century Venetian art glass and now maintain a private gallery in New York City devoted exclusively to that specialty.

"For several years I was on the Vetting Committee for European and American ceramics and glass at The International Fine Art and Antique Dealers Show and I consulted in the development of both public and private collections of European and American Art Nouveau and Art Deco and of course, Venetian glass. I am a founder and a former president of the New York Metropolitan Glass Club (now Art Glass Forum New York), where I've lectured on Venetian glass from the Renaissance to the present and on the work of Louis Comfort Tiffany. I've lectured at New York's Colony Club on the history of Venetian glassmaking for the benefit of Save Venice.

"Objects from my collection of works of Tiffany Studios are illustrated in *The American Heritage History of Antiques* (1969). Several highly important pieces of furniture from my collection of the oeuvre of Emile Gallé are illustrated in *Emile Gallé* by Philippe Garner (1976); and vases and glass sculpture from my collection of works by René Lalique are illustrated in *Lalique for Collectors* by Katherine M. McClinton (1975). Bronzes from my collection of works from the Tiffany Studios were displayed at the Twentieth Century Decorative Arts exhibition at the Brooklyn Museum of Art in 1970 and at the C.W. Post Art Gallery exhibition *The Age of Tiffany* in 1981.

"*New England Antiques Journal* published my article, 'Louis Comfort Tiffany's Metal & Glass Masterpieces' in November 1986. I have lectured on the life and creative activities of Tiffany at Tiffany Veterans Room in the Seventh Regiment Armory in New York

City, at NYC's Place des Antiquaires and most recently at the New York Metropolitan Glass Club.

"The magazine *Antiques* published four articles I wrote. 'Venetian Art Nouveau Glass,' February 2000; 'Venetian Glass at Stanford University,' September 2002; 'A Pre-Raphaelite gem in New York City, April 2005; and 'Sir Edward Burne-Jones's Roman Mosaics,' December 2007.

"I delivered the inaugural lecture for the exhibition 'Salviati at Stanford University' in Palo Alto, Calif., in September 2002. At the Corning Museum of Glass' annual glass seminar in October 2003 I delivered a lecture, 'Technical and Stylistic Advances in Nineteenth Century Venetian Glassmaking.'

"My first book, *Venetian Glass, Confections in Glass, 1855–1914,* was published in 1998. My second book, *Venetian Glass Mosaics 1860–1917,* was published in 2008. My essay for the exhibition catalog of the Smithsonian Museum of American Art's *Sargent, Whistler, and Venetian Glass, American Artists and the Magic of Murano* was published in 2021.

"I have been elected a Fellow of the Corning Museum of Glass."

Stephen Wang, noting that we lost **Jay Jackman** on January 17, 2022, after a several-year battle with Parkinson's, penned the following tribute to Jay. "I met Jay in high school when we were in two history classes together. We became close friends when we entered Columbia. He was an iconoclast, not the typical pre-med student, and was exemplary of Columbia College's aim to prepare each student for an educated and diverse life of learning and not only for a career. Jay took multiple fine arts courses and enrolled in Moses Hadas' 'Colloquium of Important Books.' I was a daily commuter and Jay invited me to stay in his shared dorm room on many occasions. We became fraternity brothers (TEP) and continued our friendship although we went to different medical schools and did our residencies on different sides of the continent. Jay was a sincere and devoted friend! He was always deeply concerned about social justice. His marriage to Myra made him a very happy man. He beamed when he spoke of her and was so proud of her many accomplishments. She was a devoted and caring wife through his long battle with Parkinson's."

1961

Michael Hausig
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Congratulations are in order for **Mickey Greenblatt,** for taking over the class monthly communication program. Regularly scheduled Zoom meetings have expanded class participation well beyond the monthly luncheon program that existed before Covid-19.

This was a very sad year for **Phil Cottone.** His wife, Maureen, passed away last year after 63 years of marriage. They married during his freshman year at Columbia after courting all through high school. Phil was editor-in-chief of his high school yearbook and gets complaints from some of his classmates to this day that there are more pictures of Maureen in the book than of them. Phil and Maureen had four sons, 11 grandchildren (six girls and five boys) and now three and a half great-grandchildren (one is due in a couple of months). One of Phil's sons and one grandson graduated from the College.

Mike Clark is alive and kicking. Lots of golf, fishing, hunting and mountain hiking, yet, his waist is growing faster than his belt can handle. Must be the damned desert water!

Mike and his wife, Joanna, celebrated their 60th anniversary, another successful union of Columbia and St. Luke's.

A book **David Konstan** edited, *Emotions Across Cultures: Ancient China and Greece*, appeared this year (online: bit.ly/3ouYZ4Q). Another book, wholly written by David, was published earlier this year: *The Origin of Sin: Greece and Rome, Early Judaism and Christianity* (online: bit.ly/3kTrY0G). David continues to teach at NYU.

Gene Milone is working through Ptolemy's *Almagest* and annotating its 13 chapters for a history of science project. It's like writing a book report published 2,000 years ago, but one written in an archaic specialized language that was copied by hand repeatedly, imperfectly translated and altered often to produce a kind of multi-language puzzle. It presents quite a challenge and has been keeping him busy for the past few months. Gene is also recording the occasional meteor shower with his Nikon and intervalometer, an essential tool in long exposure and time-lapse photography.

George Reithoffer '61 (left) and Stuart Newman '61 fished in Freeport, N.Y., on May 10.

Don Savini and family, after staying through the Covid pandemic at their Pennsylvania farm, decided to move from Illinois to the Keystone State. They are situated near Penn State on a farm built in 1839 and in the midst of their Amish neighbors. They love it!

Stuart Newman LAW'64 and his son Steve SEAS'87 co-authored an article published in the *New York Law Journal* on May 11, 2022, "What to Know About the Bankruptcy Code's New Subchapter V." Subchapter V was designed to aid small businesses, typically owned by a sole proprietor or family, such as a restaurant or local retail store that could be viable long term if it had assistance in handling its current debt.

Bob Salman and his wife, Reva, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary in June. Their oldest granddaughter, Sydney, is getting married in October. Their grandson Jack starts his senior year at Wharton, and his sister Mackenzie is now a sophomore at U of Florida at Gainesville.

On October 25, Bob will present a program at Brookdale Community College, "Recent Supreme Court Decisions and Upcoming Elections: An Analysis." This will be a week after my annual election predictions at our October class lunch.

Jack Kirik and **Ed Auzenbergs** visited the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland in mid-April during a social visit in the area.

Dr. **Avrum Bluming** PS'65 was guest editor of the May/June 2022 issue of *The Cancer Journal,* titled "Estrogen Reconsidered: Exploring the Evidence for Estrogen's Benefits and Risks," in which capacity he invited leading investigators from around the world to present updated reports contributing to our current understanding of menopausal hormone therapy (online at bit.ly/3JOE9Hh).

Avrum is Emeritus Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of Southern California.

Joe Rosenstein spoke to the CC'61 Zoom group last July about the Jewish books he wrote, and mentioned he was writing a book about the 1,800-year-old text known as Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers). Despite his advanced age and concomitant infirmities, Joe says, he managed to publish that book: *Reflections on Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers): Not Just What My Rebbe Taught Me,* available at joerosenstein.com.

Peter Gund wrote that some classmates might remember Paul Chassy, who came to our class with Peter from Babylon H.S. on Long Island. A pre-med student, Paul transferred to the University of Colorado for health reasons (asthma) after his freshman year. He had become enamored of sociology while at Columbia, and earned a B.S. and a Ph.D. in sociology in Colorado. After teaching for several years, Paul earned a law degree at University of

Michigan and moved to Maryland, where he became a professor of law at Catholic University. Later he held responsible positions at a number of federal agencies, most recently as a trial lawyer at the Department of Justice, and as a researcher on the Project on Government Oversight. A bassoonist and an ardent bridge player his whole life, most recently he lived with his wife, Reina, in Lakewood Ranch, Fla., where he succumbed to cancer in May.

Two classmates passed away in recent months.

Mark Franklin passed away in May 22, 2021, from Alzheimer's but because of Covid, his children, Jonathon and Laura, delayed the memorial event until May 22 at Umrath Hall on the Washington University campus in St. Louis. Those who weren't able to attend in person were invited to participate by Zoom.

Richard Fadem, who retired to Orcas Island, Wash., after a distinguished career as an English literature professor only to resume teaching literature seminars that enriched and inspired dozens, if not hundreds, of Orcas, San Juan and Shaw islanders across the next decade-plus, died on May 17, 2022, from complications of multiple myeloma at his home outside Santa Fe, N.M.

Richard moved to Orcas Island full time after a career as a 19th-century English literature professor at Scripps College and the Claremont Graduate School, both in California. Prior to that, he and his family had spent summer vacations on Orcas.

Additional information about Mark and Richard can be found in this issue's "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

1962

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A year ago **Frank Strauss** sent news I failed to publish. Now retired from practicing nephrology, he sings regularly in the Santa Monica, Calif., Verdi Chorus, which he chairs. He also teaches history of medicine and writes medical articles. Frank and his wife live in Los Angeles and Santa Fe and collect Native American/Pueblo pottery. Frank writes: "I play violin in chamber groups, exercise daily, travel and spend lots of time with family. There is life after practicing medicine! I'm sure that living fully stems from the values and education I absorbed at Columbia."

Roman Kernitsky continues practicing ophthalmology in Freehold, N.J. His wife recently died from breast cancer. He writes: "My son, now on the National Security Council in Washington, D.C., is occupied with the Balkans and animosity between Turkey and Greece. I'm preoccupied with Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine, where I have relatives whom I constantly worry about. Putin claims Ukraine and Russia are brothers, but he slaughters Ukrainians. Furthermore, western Ukraine is Catholic, and the Russian Orthodox church hates Catholics. We are not 'brothers' at all!"

David Adams, a professor emeritus at Wesleyan and a peace activist, writes: "To confront censorship and false news in both Russian and Western media, I publish the truth at the Culture of Peace News Network and comment on the blog Transition to a Culture of Peace. As Gandhi said, 'Non-violence and truth are inseparable and presuppose one another.'"

Bob Meyers still rides his mountain e-bike on unpaved trails near Oakland, Calif., although more slowly, carefully and less far. He and his wife, Sylvia Sykora, minimize travel and indoor socializing, and spend more time gardening and enjoying nature. "To maintain our mental health and happiness," Bob writes, "we're on a 'news diet' — not listening to, reading or watching much news. We realize we can't do much about current events, but keep a positive outlook and contribute to organizations that do good. Over morning tea outdoors we discuss what we're grateful for, and that helps our equilibrium. We urge classmates to try it."

Writing from the University of Winnipeg, **Dan Stone** says: "The state of the world is distressing. I used to tell my students there are better and worse historical periods; I'm afraid we're now entering a bad one. It's also sobering to have become a beater — an older, high-mileage vehicle that might get its occupants from point A to point B, but suffers from cosmetic issues and minor malfunctions.

"I'm still active with the local Jewish historical society and do some lecturing on current Central and Eastern Europe issues, my area of relative expertise. I hope to resume Morris dancing after stopping during Covid-19. English country dance should be all right since it's less strenuous."

Kudos to **Charlie Morrow** for receiving the Sibelius 75th Anniversary commission, for which he wrote the comic chamber opera *24 Hours in 48 Minutes.* His company MorrowSound is doing immersive sound projects for the Smithsonian Institution and Kaiser-Permanente hospitals.

During the past year **John Garman** took a 300-mile cruise on the Columbia River from Astoria, Ore., to the Idaho/Washington border. Next he plans to cruise the Mississippi from Minneapolis to New Orleans in the hope that it will help him "weather the storms ahead."

Frank Strauss '62, retired from the practice of nephrology, and his wife live in Los Angeles and Santa Fe, N.M., and collect Native American/Pueblo pottery.

John "saw our first granddaughter graduate with honors from Creighton University and announce her engagement the same day; watched our son build and sell 200 homes per year, four years running; observed our 14-year-old grandson play soccer that impressed scouts from the University of Barcelona; and, thanks to sedentary zooming, gained 30 unwanted pounds!"

Marty Erdheim and his wife, Joan, have figured it out. They live mostly in Fairfield, Conn., equidistant between their daughters in Trumbull and Westport. Three months a year they stay in Sun Valley, Idaho, and often spend weekends in NYC. These arrangements plus good health allow them to lead active lives. They have three grandchildren and often see Nancy and **Bart Nisonson.**

With a heavy heart I report the passing of **Jim Balquist.** His widow, Ann, wrote: "Jim passed away on April 14, 2022. Columbia was such a big part of him and me, as we met at a Columbia mixer in 1961. He was very proud of his Columbia days, especially his wrestling feats."

Jim was a New Jersey State Wrestling Champion and at Columbia captained the wrestling team that upset Cornell to become 1961 Ivy League Champions. He earned a Ph.D. in organic chemistry and did post-doctoral studies at the University of Wisconsin. Jim and Ann married in 1964 and had three sons.

In 1972 Jim and family settled in Sunnyvale, Calif., and he became corporate quality assurance manager of Raychem Corp. Jim devoted weekends to Ann, their sons and grandchildren: cheering at their athletics events and traveling worldwide. He also loved painting and gardening and served on several committees at St. Lawrence Catholic Church.

A month later **Larry Kotin** LAW'66 died. He attended school with **Allen Young** in South Fallsburg, N.Y. Larry's father emigrated from Russia and left school at 12 to support his parents and sisters. Eventually he owned a Jewish deli in the Borscht Belt. From the age of 4 through college, Larry helped out at the deli.

Larry graduated from the Law School and immediately began representing parents with children with special needs. As principal investigator for the Massachusetts Study of Educational Opportunities for Handicapped and Disadvantaged Children (1971) and special assistant for education and children's services to Massachusetts governor Francis Sargent, Larry helped Massachusetts establish rights for children with disabilities. He also consulted for the federal government.

Larry served in many nonprofits: as executive director of Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, co-director of the Massachusetts Center for Public Interest Law, president of the Boston Education Alliance and a board member of the New School of Music and Shady Hill School. He taught in Tufts' Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and lectured widely. Upon completing 25 years on the Massachusetts Advocates for Children Board of

Directors, Larry was honored for his "effective advocacy on behalf of children." He also received the Martha Ziegler Founder's Award from the Federation for Children with Special Needs, for "decades of dedication to students with disabilities and their families." He was a founding partner and leader of Kotin, Crabtree & Strong.

Larry leaves two children, Alison and Jack, and one granddaughter.

On June 1, after several years with Parkinson's, **Tony Wolf** died at home in Connecticut. He leaves behind his wife of 55 years, Mary Alice Chieppo; their children, Nicholas and Margaret '93; and scores of grateful patients. Tony earned a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at CUNY and pursued a lifelong practice working with children and families in Springfield, Mass.

Tony wrote many wise and witty books to help parents cope with troubled, and not-so-troubled, offspring. His best-selling work — *Get Out of My Life, But First Could You Drive Me and Cheryl to the Mall?* — went through 20 printings. In other books, TV appearances and magazine articles, Tony explained that children's sometimes awful behavior was normal and, most important, temporary. His warmth, good humor and keen intelligence enhanced his professional work and endeared him to family, friends and patients.

Read more about **Jim Balquist** and **Tony Wolf** in this issue's "Obituaries," found online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

1963

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Paul Neshamkin
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I am constantly amazed at how many classmates enjoy coming together every couple of weeks to chat for an hour and a half (or more) on Zoom. It's a wonderful extension of our four years together on Morningside (and it's free). Let me know if you'd like to join the discussion, and I will send you an invite.

Eric Foner GSAS'69, the DeWitt Clinton Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia, was awarded the Tony Horwitz Prize to honor distinguished work in American history of wide appeal and enduring public significance by the Society of American Historians. The press release states, "The word preeminent should be used sparingly, but it should not be spared in honoring Eric Foner. No historian has done more over the past fifty years to shape our understanding of the era of the Civil War."

Indeed! Congratulations, Eric.

Lee Lowenfish writes, "Like many classmates, the big 80 hit me, on June 27, but I celebrated on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Looking forward to next spring, when my book *Baseball's Endangered Species: Inside the Craft of Scouting by Those Who Lived It,* will be out from the University of Nebraska Press. It also published my award-winning biography, *Branch Rickey: Baseball's Ferocious Gentleman.*

"Thrilled that [Coach] Brett Boretti's Lions won another Ivy League title and knocked off Gonzaga twice in the regional."

Alexis Levitin GSAS'71 sent the following: "I am writing you from the island of Ikaria in Greece, my first vacation since the pandemic swept down upon us all. Here is a brief bio update. In the last year, I have published three collections of poetry translation: Astrid Cabral's *Gazing Through Water* and Salgado Maranhão's *Consecration of the Wolves* and *Mapping the Tribe.*

"Later this year I will bring out Eugénio de Andrade's last volume of poetry, *Furrows of Thirst.* Thrust by the pandemic into isolation tinged with fear, I have also begun to write my own short stories. Twenty-three have been published so far. A collection, *The Last Ruy Lopez: Stories from the Royal Game,* will come out in 2023."

Mark Koppel attended the June 11 LGBTQ+ Reception at Columbia Reunion 2022. "I was by far the oldest one there, and envied what an easier time current LGBTQ+ students have at Columbia. On September 1, my husband, Barry Brandes, and I plan to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our meeting. I'd be interested in hearing from other gay men from our class. I still keep in touch with my closest friends from our class, **Alan Greengrass**, **Rory Butler** and **Geoffrey Akst.**"

Professor **Mel Gurtov**'s 31st book, *Engaging China: Rebuilding US-China Relations,* will be published in October.

Peter Joneleit writes, "I celebrated my 82nd birthday in June and look forward to celebrating our 42nd wedding anniversary with my wife, four children and nine grandchildren later this year. Any classmates interested in a colorful and entertaining online bio of my career and personal life can visit novalight.net. A return to New Zealand, after a memorable 10-year second career there, including NZ citizenship, concluding my 20 years of retirement so far, appears increasingly attractive and likely. I always loved the Columbia motto!"

Bob Donahue writes, "Seventeen years ago I began the greatest adventure of my life. At 64 I adopted a 15-year-old boy. Quite an experience for a gay man. Randy is now married and a very successful pilot."

Harley Frankel writes, "The nonprofit college access organization I founded 20 years ago, College Match, had its best year ever and likely the best year of any college access program in the country ever. Under the leadership of my brilliant executive director, Erica Rosales, a Wellesley graduate, College Match got 90 percent of its low-income inner-city students into 'Top 25' colleges in 2022."

Phil Friedman's web article "A practice-based evidence approach pre, during, and post COVID-19 during psychotherapy" was published by the Society for the Advancement of Psychotherapy (Division 29 of APA: the American Psychological Association): online at bit.ly/3aZn7JP.

Bruce Kaplan writes, "Just shy of my 80th birthday I continue to enjoy practicing law in my role as senior counsel at Friedman Kaplan Seiler & Adelman, the firm I helped found nearly 40 years ago. While my schedule is lighter than in the past, my trial practice remains active and I look forward to — and am preparing for — a trial now scheduled for September. My firm, and the 50-plus lawyers I work with, continues to be a source of professional and personal pride.

"I have long cherished my years at Columbia College, and am grateful for the education I received there, as well as for the generous scholarship that allowed me to attend. Perhaps bucking the current trend, I also believe there is enduring value in the study of the thought, history, literature and art of Western civilization, not to denigrate or diminish others but as a foundation to understanding our place in the broader world.

"My wife, Ann, and I live in New York City. Between us we have four children and, thus far, three grandchildren. We all have our health. Life is good."

When you're in NYC, you might be able to reconnect with classmates at our regular second Thursday class lunches at the Columbia Club. Please email me if you are interested, and I can confirm the date of our next lunch. In any case, we will continue to meet on Zoom every first and third Thursday at 12:30 p.m. Eastern time. Let me know if you'd like to join us, and I'll send you an invite.

In the meantime, please let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next. Stay safe!

1964

Norman A. Olch
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On April 15, Major League Baseball celebrated Jackie Robinson Day. I asked classmates what they remembered of him. Here are the replies so far:

Marty Weinstein: "I was at a game at Ebbets Field. We were on the first base side near home plate. Robinson was on third base. He took the longest lead I had ever seen anyone take and dared the pitcher to try to pick him off. The pitcher was clearly unnerved after trying to keep him closer to the bag. Suddenly, as the pitcher wound up, Robinson took off for the plate and beat the throw home. My most exciting in-person memory of the Brooklyn Dodgers."

Joel Abramson: "I was at the last game played in Ebbets Field in late September '57 and have the ticket stub to prove it. But, by then, JR had retired. Not so long afterward, I met JR. In summer 1958, I had a job delivering lunches, coffee, snacks, etc., for a luncheonette on the ground floor of a small Midtown office building. Among the upper-floor tenants was a full-floor dental office, quite high end and acclaimed.

JR was a patient. He stopped into the luncheonette before treatment, twice. He was personable, outgoing and mild-mannered — a far cry from his fierce competitor image acquired on the playing field. He expressed his nervousness about going to the dentist; fully understandable if you saw the drills in that office. I also delivered lunch to Marilyn Monroe when she was getting an overhaul at the Elizabeth Arden Spa, but I doubt that anybody would be interested in that."

David Levin: "I wore 42 on my 55-plus softball team."

Steve Case: "I never went to Ebbets Field, but back in the day (with many more games played in the afternoon than now), both after school and on summer days, I watched Jackie Robinson countless times on Channel 9. He left on me the impression that he was, when on the field, base running or batting, passionately and intently engaged in every aspect of the game for every single moment. So, again, my dominant recollection is how single minded he was. Ever the able, model, highly skilled, highly motivated athlete! What a guy!"

Ed Waller: "My wife and I split our time between Tampa and Rockland, Maine. I do have personal memories of Jackie Robinson. In 1956, when I was 14, I went to St. Louis for a series when the Dodgers came to play the Cardinals. My dad and I stayed in the same hotel as the Dodgers. The games were night games, but during the afternoons I hung out in the hotel lobby, met the players and got their autographs on a baseball: Jackie, Pee Wee Reese, Sandy Koufax, Roy Campanella, Duke Snider, Carl Erskine, et al. I remember one afternoon when the players were waiting outside for the bus to take them to the ballpark, Robinson, Campanella and Don Newcombe were having fun lagging pennies on the sidewalk. Needless to say, this ball is one of my most prized possessions."

Contact CCT

Update your address, email or phone; submit a Class Note, new book, photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

Peter Trooboff: "When Jackie Robinson broke into baseball, friends of my aunt rented an upstairs apartment to Jackie and his wife, Rachel, and they became lifelong friends. So when my brother and I were in Brooklyn on one occasion, we attended a Dodgers game and saw Jackie play. I still have the baseball that he signed. He was my hero and the Dodgers were my team. When we lived in the South I listened to games on radio and kept numbers on the wall over my bed to keep track of the number of games remaining to clinch the pennant. Rachel remained a good friend of my aunt and kindly helped my mom later in life."

Ivan Weissman: "When Jackie played his first Major League game, I was a 5-year-old living in Brooklyn close to Ebbets Field. This was overwhelmingly exciting. It taught me about race relations, and convinced me that I was living in the most important place in the world!"

Howard Perlstein adds to classmates' comments on The Beatles in the Spring/Summer 2022 column: "My hazy recollection is that I was with my parents, New York Philharmonic and Met Opera season ticket holders, when The Beatles performed on *The Ed Sullivan Show*, and that they were appalled by the music and the movements. I enjoyed the performance but, then and now, my 'thing' is jazz. Over time, I learned to appreciate their mastery of the genre and the nuance of their lyrics. Looking forward to our next reunion."

Catching up with classmates since graduation, they share what they wish they knew when 18 and their advice to new graduates:

Gerald Zuriff: "On June 20, I saw my last patient in my clinical psychotherapy practice. This follows: 'Introductory Psychology' with Herb Terrace at the College, four years in a Ph.D. program in the Department of Psychology at Harvard, 40 years as professor of psychology at Wheaton College, 35 years as a psychologist in the Mental Health Department at MIT and 14 years of private psychotherapy practice in Harvard Square. There is no useful advice that I wish I had as a College freshman because I would not have understood it. Similarly, there is no advice I could give new College alumni because they would find it incomprehensible."

Arnie Lentnek: "In brief: Became an infectious diseases doc. 'Interesting' times during AIDS, Lyme Disease, West Nile Virus, Zika virus and, of course, coronavirus. Still practicing, oscillating between Manhattan and Boca. Married (56 years), lots of kids and grandkids. Personal life: pretty good. Content is now the best description. Professional life: interesting, invigorating (based on personal experience, great for holding off dementia). Social/political life: appalling, depressing, frightening. Now I feel that well-known Chinese saying 'May you live in interesting times.' I have never experienced such glorification of ignorance, praise of violence or approval of just plain evil as I have during the last 20 years. Our 'experiment' in democracy might really be an experiment after all, with the end very much in doubt. I sincerely fear for the future of this county. I wish for the new graduates curiosity, circumspection (they're not really contradictory) and tolerance. I wish them lives as satisfying as mine."

The American Academy of Arts and Letters has given **Phillip Lopate** this year's Christopher Lightfoot Walker Award, which recognizes a writer of distinction who has made a significant contribution to American literature. He is the third recipient of this $100,000 prize after Thomas Pynchon and Leslie Marmon Silko. As noted in the press release, Phillip said: "I was astonished when I received this award out of the blue. On the one hand, the megalomaniacal side of me thought, of course I deserve it, I have certainly given a lot to American literature, particularly through my championing of the essay form. The pragmatic, humbler side of me thought, just because something is said to be 'well deserved,' as my friends keep telling me, doesn't mean it is meant to happen. The long and short of it is that the award has been very validating. Certainly, the money helps, but even more [important] is the recognition from my peers of a lifetime of good work."

Phillip is on the faculty of the M.F.A. Writing Program in the School of the Arts.

I have more notes, but the editor insists there is a word count. Next issue.

1965

Leonard Pack
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Bob Quatrone GSAS'71 reached out to me for the first time during my tenure as class correspondent. So let him be an inspiration to any classmate who has not yet appeared in this column, or to anyone else who hasn't been heard from for a long time.

Bob is a professor and poet and hosted the 4 HORSE Poets based at the Cornelia Street Cafe for a dozen years. He sent me one of his poems. I requested some personal information, and he gave me a résumé and a short bio. The list of Columbia professors he studied under should bring back memories:

Modern Writers, Lionel Trilling CC 1925, GSAS'38
Colloquium on Important Books, F.W. Dupee
Modern Poetry, Kevin Sullivan GSAS'57
American Lit., Charles Everett GSAS 1932
Medieval Lit., Richard Brett
Elizabethan Lit., Paul Delaney
Romantic Lit., Quentin Anderson '37, GSAS'53
English Novel, Robert Alter
Metaphysical and Augustan Lit., Robert Alter
Shakespeare, Andrew Chiappe CC 1933, GSAS'39
British Philosophy, Martin Golding GSAS'59
Humanities, Peter Haidu GSAS'66
Classics, Susan Sontag GSAS'77

Here's Bob's bio; he does not use capital letters:

"let me begin with my children - i have a daughter and a son, ages 49 and 47, susan graduating from penn and rob graduating from columbia ['97] - sue also has a law degree from fordham, is an accomplished attorney, has worked five years as an aid to bill pascrell and is attempting to become a city council member in rutherford and is in the middle of a controversy, trying to save the william carlos williams poetry center from destruction - rob traveled extensively in africa, europe and asia, and in the amazon. he has taught nearly 20 years at dalton school in manhattan and is a great favorite - my wife, olivia, married tempestuously for 50 years, has been a managing partner at two major executive search firms in new york city - she is highly intuitive and clearly the center of the family - my children and wife are all out there ahead of me, who continues to be simply a journeyman professor and poet - i also have an earlier wife, now dead, deb evenson, who traveled cross country with me by car in the late '60s after we left school - debra subsequently become a lawyer and a considerable scholar who has left the world a definitive book on cuba - *revolution in the balance; law and society in contemporary cuba*. debra's early death was truly tragic. much of my thought is in my poetry and some of it is online in various places. one recent poem that expresses the activist side of me is 'the death of tessa majors.'"

Go to this column online (college.columbia.edu/cct) to read the poem.

Peter Rutter was all over the cultural news in April. He is married to Delia Ephron, whose new book, *Left on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life,* came out that month. Here's the story as summarized by a review of the book in *The Wall Street Journal* on April 8: After the death of her first husband, Jerry Kass, Delia wrote an op ed about it. The book review continued, "Her op-ed for *The New York Times* about a pitched battle with Verizon to disconnect Jerry's landline struck a chord with readers. Among them was Peter Rutter, a San Francisco-based psychiatrist, widower and mensch. He and Delia, he told her in an email, had been fixed up by none other than [Delia's sister] Nora more than a half-century earlier. In fact, they'd had several dates. Ms. Ephron had no recollection. Dr. Rutter took no offense. Thus was launched a correspondence that swiftly became a courtship."

Then Delia was diagnosed with leukemia, which had killed her sister. She became gravely ill and was treated as a last resort with a stem-cell transplant. She and Peter married at her hospital, and he was with her throughout her excruciating treatment. She tells the whole story in her book.

The *Journal* review can be accessed online: on.wsj.com/3bbb3oy. A much fuller piece, with a lovely photo of Peter and Delia, appeared in *The New York Times* on April 15, 2022, and can be accessed online: nyti.ms/3oqE2rJ. And my steadfast newsgatherer, **Dan Carlinsky**, sent me a feature from CBS News; see it online: cbsn.ws/3J6vu2s.

Jim Siegel sprang into action to organize a lunch with Peter. Jim, Peter, **Pellegrino D'Acierno** and I got together on the Upper West Side on June 29. Peter has retired from psychanalysis, and Pelle has a new book of poems coming out soon. Out-of-town invitees who couldn't make it were **Bob Caserio, Ben Cohen** and **Derek Wittner.** Ben followed up by sending us "a link to an interesting talk and discussion about Jewish law and ethics regarding abortion and the ins and outs of the issue from a Jewish and biological point of view. It was organized by my rabbi and congregation here in Houston. In it he speaks briefly about Columbia and his Thursday afternoon sessions teaching reading skills to junior high school students in Harlem." Ben added that his rabbi is none other than **Elliot Dorff;** go online to see: bit.ly/3cEKs3P.

Peter's reaction to Ben: "Thanks for sending this. What a relief to hear how Elliot frames his ethical analysis of the recent abomination from the SCOTUS 5. I remember Elliot well and he is as much of a mensch as he was when we were freshmen. I got to know him when he shared a New Hall suite with my high school friend David Grad from Cincinnati, along with Steve Sachs '67 and **Alan Gelenberg.** The Camp Ramah posse. Hope to see you in NYC in the fall."

And **Bob Caserio** chimed in, "I'll add my thanks, Ben, for directing me to Elliot's talk. Elliot was my New Hall freshman roommate (as were Dave Grad and **Howard Matz**)."

1966

Columbia College Today
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Thanks to everyone who sent in an update. It was great to hear from so many class members!

From **Steven Leichter:** "My professional life has been devoted to endocrinology, with an emphasis on organizing or improving diabetes care. After serving in the Air Force, I moved to Kentucky in 1977. With a local physician, Carlos Hernandez, I established the largest public health program in diabetes in any state — a program that still exists. We got the funding for that program because of the support of a widely-known Kentucky figure from Hazard, Ky., Willie Dawahare. He was the person from whom the character of Boss Hogg was derived in *The Dukes of Hazzard.*

"At that time, there was no widespread availability of programs for diabetes patient education anywhere in the United States. While consulting for Congress, I helped establish a national program for diabetes patient education with the American Diabetes Association. That program also continues to exist. There also was no enabling legislation to permit the federal government to devote healthcare funds to train health professionals in the care of diabetic people. Working with Rep. William Natcher (D-Ky.), we had such legislation passed by Congress, and President Reagan signed it into law in 1984.

"In 1986, I chaired the conference of the United Nations, which wrote the worldwide plan for diabetes care for the World Health Organization. At that time, I became close friends with an endocrinologist from Croatia, Mate Granić. Mate became the minister of foreign affairs of Croatia. In 1988, I chaired a conference for the CDC, which established the first standard of care for diabetes care — standards regarding the care of diabetic eye disease.

"My wife and I lived in Lexington, Ky., and Virginia Beach. In 1995, we moved to Columbus, Ga., where we still live. Columbus is our true home. I established one of the largest endocrinology and diabetes centers in the Southeast in Columbus. I work full time in clinical endocrinology and diabetes, as part of Piedmont Healthcare.

"We have five children and six grandchildren. We have a beautiful home on a lake that serves as the border between Georgia and Alabama. We would always be happy to see classmates who visit Columbus."

Neill Brownstein writes: "In 1964 or 1965, I attended the Samuel Beckett production of *Waiting for Godot*. It impacted me not at all. Had little notion of the meaning. Today, I can feel the meaning of Beckett's story as I try to appreciate each and every day in the winter of my years. Recently, after dinner one night, my 3-year-old grandson said, 'Pop Pop, let's go for a walk.' Filled my heart with gratitude."

Philip Goldstein announces a new book, *The Theory and Practice of Reception Study Reading Race and Gender in Twain, Faulkner, Ellison, and Morrison*. He says, "It examines novels of Faulkner and Morrison as well as Mark Twain and Ralph Ellison in order to show that their works forcefully undermine the racial and sexual divisions characterizing both the South and contemporary culture in the 19th and 20th centuries."

Gary Kopf writes, "I went to Harvard Medical School, followed by general and cardiothoracic training at the Brigham and Women's and Boston Children's hospitals. Was immediately recruited to Yale, where I have spent my entire surgical career doing adult and pediatric cardiac surgery. Along the way, I married my high school sweetheart, Hedda, and had two kids; the older one, Jeff, was at our HMS graduation. We have come to love New Haven.

"Through the years, I have audited many courses and seminars at Yale, which is only a three-block walk from the Yale-New Haven Hospital. I've also been on the adult and peds ethics committees and completed my Healthcare Ethics Consultation; I am one of only two physicians at Yale to have done so, and the only surgeon. I have stopped doing surgery but continue doing ethics consultations. We live on Long Island Sound, 25 minutes from the hospital, and a have a second home in Wellfeet, on Cape Cod. If you're coming through New Haven, please stop by anytime."

From **Calvin Johnson:** "I am down to [teaching] one class a year, 'Corporate Tax,' at the University of Texas, but I remain active writing. The grand theme is to protect the tax base by thinking up exquisitely creative ideas that will improve the fairness and efficiency of our tax code. Last ones said, 1) limit interest deductions to adjusted basis times interest to prevent evil negative tax subsidies; 2) get $6 trillion from our behemoth trillion-dollar companies by treating their intangibles as investments, up to their market value; and 3) publicly traded stock is better than cash, tax it as it increases in value.

"Anybody else got any other good ideas to defend our Uncle Sam? Do tell me."

Neal Hurwitz writes: "One of the highlights for Class of '66 guys lucky to be there was Mark Kesselman's politics seminar in '65–'66, which we have now resurrected via Zoom with **Barry Coller** hosting. Several guys are gone, including the brilliant **Nick Weiskopf**, but we have also added super fellows, not all Columbia grads, so we have a great roster now, with Mark in Massachusetts, Barry at Rockefeller University in New York, **Tom Harrold** in Atlanta, Rick Winston '69 in Vermont, **Peter Imrey** in Ohio, Michael Winner from USA Unify in San Francisco, David Morey in Washington, D.C., Gerald Friedman '77 in Massachusetts, Steve Woolpert in California, **Jonathan Blank** in Austin; **Joel Blau, Joe Albeck** in Massachusetts, **Ken Fox**, Joe Dorinson '58, **Gary Kopf**, Paul Weichsel (Stuyvesant '49), Mel Siegel (Stuyvesant '58) in Bend, Ore., and Pittsburgh, **Mark Levine, Michael Garrett, Ira Katznelson, Howard Blank, Chuck Lieppe** and Steve Shestakofsky LAW'69.

"Twenty-five guys from Stuyvesant H.S. entered in September 1962, the number 2 most common school after Bronx Science (28), including **Joe Albeck, Mark Berger, Chas Brody, Phil Cohen, Mike Dolin, Eben Feinstein, Peter Imrey, Rob Lautin, Mike Leibowitz, David Lerner, John Mamoulakis, Bruno Santonocito, Rick Silverblatt, Ken Werner, Tom Scarlett** and me. Sadly, seven are gone now: **Burt Gordon, Len Handelsman, Rich Karle, Marc Kusnetz, Robert Modlinger, Tony Starace** and **Tom Kalfa.**

"The Stuyvesant H.S. '62 guys in the Kesselman seminar — with CC'66ers **Tom Harrold, Barry Coller, Michael Garrett, Danny Friedlander** et al. — are **Joe Albeck, Rob Lautin, Peter Imrey,** me and Steve Shestakofsky LAW'69.

"One of our great concerns in this Kesselman seminar is the condition of democracy in the USA, and what to do about it."

Sadly, **Gerald E. Warshaver,** a professor and dean, died in New York City on April 30, 2022. See "Obituaries" online (college.columbia.edu/cct) for more.

Please take a moment to send us your latest news and happenings, and we'll share them in a future issue. Write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1967

Albert Zonana
azonana@me.com

We heard from quite a few classmates for this issue.

Dean Ringel: "Mark Minton; Chris Hartzell, a new NYC resident; **Leigh Dolin** and I attended the *Spectator* editorial board reunion dinner, which, as usual, discussed but ultimately failed to solve the world's problems. We plan to try again in 2027."

Chris Hartzell: "I was delighted to see old friends at the 55th reunion. This one was different because my wife, Kathy, and I have recently moved back to New York from my native California. I came of age at Columbia and in New York. Now I'm back to pick up where I left off. I can be reached at chrishartzell1@gmail.com."

Jeffrey Nightingale: "Our 55th reunion was a wonderful opportunity to see classmates, visit the campus and attend excellent panels. The class dinner was a nice finale to the event.

"I work part time in our ophthalmology practice on New York's Upper West Side. My son Andrew '05, PS'11 has taken over, allowing me to work on a limited basis. I also spend one day a week teaching our residents in ophthalmology at the New York Eye & Ear Infirmary, Mount Sinai. My wife, Fredda, and I enjoy seeing our grandchildren here in New York, as well as visiting those of our son Charles '00 in Newport Beach, Calif. We're hoping to have some more family College alumni in the future."

Ray Burghardt: "I continue to migrate between two homes: my principal residence in Honolulu and the summer home built by my father-in-law in Osterville, Mass., in Cape Cod. The past two years I've had to suspend my usual frequent travel to Asia. Especially difficult has been the inability to be with my daughter Helen, son-in-law Hiroto and grandson Martin, who live in Kobe, Japan. We are all very happy that we will soon get together for two weeks in Honolulu, joined by my daughter Caroline, traveling from her home in Brooklyn. I have stayed active on some private sector and nonprofit boards involved with Asia. The heightened focus on the Taiwan issue has also drawn me into conferences, exercises and consultations, many virtual and in the past year in New York, D.C., Palo Alto and elsewhere. A trip to Korea this September on behalf of the East-West Center still looks like it will really happen. The other half of my half-retired life is filled with lots of exercise: swimming, hiking, cross-country skiing every winter and mediocre golf, plus lots of cultural events and staying connected with friends. My health has been fine except for keeping several dermatologists well-employed."

Michael Rudikoff: "I am happily retired from internal medicine in Baltimore with 'best' wife, Robin, and Golden Retriever, Ginsburg."

David Schiff: "On June 4, the Eugene Symphony premiered my latest orchestral work, *Prefontaine: a symphonic tribute at a concert dedicated to the spirit and legacy of the great runner Steve Prefontaine.* Francesco Lecce-Chong conducted. A detailed review by Angela Allen appeared in Oregon ArtsWatch: online at bit.ly/3veT4o1."

David Shaw: "My wife, Marsha, and I have been doing a great deal of U.S. and international traveling since our retirements in 2011. We missed the 55th reunion, as we were on a small group tour in Scotland, our first big trip since a visit to 'The Room Where It Happened' (Hong Kong, early January, 2020). And, we moved from Madison, Wis., after 50-plus years, last September to Denver to be near our children and grandchildren. Roar, Lion, Roar (my cellphone ringtone)."

Ken Haydock: "In 2007 I retired from a career in commercial banking and law, which took me to five states, and the following year settled in Madison, Wis., where I received my law degree 25 years earlier. Since the pandemic arose, I've stayed close to home, mainly in it, and have been safe from the virus so far, although many friends haven't. Caution has curtailed my usual travel plans. I used to visit close relatives in France and old friends in California and England sporadically, concentrating on food, reminiscing and examining ancient cathedrals, respectively. I was happy to serve The Cleverest Class on our 55th Reunion Committee, participating over the phone, but this time wasn't on hand for the events. I worked closely on reunion with **Jenik Radon,** when he wasn't in Estonia, and **Richard Jupa,** when he wasn't helping his daughter set up her new home in Upstate New York.

"I recently turned to my 55-year-old copy of H.D.F. Kitto's *The Greeks,* which we were encouraged to include in our summer reading before we arrived on campus for freshman year. I discovered, with joy, how well written and engaging it is. I plan to backfill other gaps in my education as I wait out the last of the pandemic, and to be on hand for our 60th and a side trip to McSorley's in due course."

Leonard Kram: "I am retired and live in Los Angeles near UCLA. I was a psychiatrist for almost 50 years. I keep myself busy reading and listening to classical music. I was hoping to see my daughter and granddaughter who live in Manhattan at the end of the summer."

Jeffrey Herrmann: "I have been back in the United States since last March, after nearly 14 years in London. A group of us who used to occasionally dine together pre–Covid-19 now meet on Zoom biweekly: **Ken Kramer, Bill Heinbach, Tony Greco, Mel Brender, Ira Krakow, Bill Anscher, Arnie Bodner, Alan Sachs,** Steve Ney '68, **Charlie Saydah** and Bob Lichterman '69. Recently a few of us ventured out for pizza at V&T. My wife and I had planned to do a lot of travel starting in 2020. The pandemic canceled trips to Kenya, Machu Picchu and multiple European destinations, and so we are holding lots of airline ticket vouchers until it is once again safe to travel. But in May my wife, younger son and I flew to London for a family reunion with my older son, daughter-in-law and only grandson. And in early July my wife and I planned to return to London to sit in the players' box at the Wimbledon men's quarterfinals, courtesy of our wonderful English tennis coach, who did so much to improve our grass court games. Despite four shots of the Pfizer vaccine, I caught a mild case of Covid in January and a few weeks later discovered a heart arrhythmia that was not present before. Mild does not mean inconsequential. Oh, and I have a 1-year-old Australian Labradoodle, Jack, who keeps me busy.”

Be well, all of you, and do write.

1968

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Arthur Spector
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Greetings from sunny Miami Beach. Let me underscore that our 55th reunion is coming up, Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3. The last one we had was the largest turnout of any class ever, with an exceptional program. **Bruce Margon**’s dinner comments on the Hubble Telescope and pictures were extraordinary, breathtaking and inspiring. The dinner was packed! We actually couldn’t have handled more people! I have an idea for the next one that will make it even better.

I salute the women’s basketball team. This year they were astoundingly great; went to the National Invitation Tournament and progressed well. Sweet 16 and almost Ivy champs … beat everyone but Princeton. We will be better next year. We have an array of talented players and a great coach. Meghan Griffith ’07. I am flying from Miami to see some games. Maybe we can have an event for the team, and just maybe be Ivy champs. That would be perfect for the Class of ’68!

Our baseball team were Ivy champs and progressed well in the NCAA Tournament. Coach Brett Boretti is great, with a record of Ivy championships. I watched a number of baseball and basketball games. I want to go to Omaha next year for the College Baseball World Series.

I shouldn’t leave out that the lightweight crew was national champs; what a feat there, too! **Art Kaufman**, **Tom Sanford** and **Al McCoy** are thrilled, I am sure.

As for baseball, **Paul Brosnan** says he hears from the coach regularly. He writes, “Oh, what I would have given to have a coach like that and play 50 games a year.” He played in a golf tournament and ran into Geoff Rasmussen, who played frosh ball at Columbia. Paul lives in Morehead City, N.C.; he and his wife are very happy there.

Billy Cross wrote that all is well in Copenhagen post–Covid-19: “Bob Dylan, with whom I played and recorded two albums in 1978, has given me a song to record that he wrote and never released himself. The song, ‘More than Flesh & Blood,’ has never been heard publicly. It was released in May 2022. You can hear it on Spotify under my own name. It’s the first single from the new album *Copenhagen Skyline.* The group’s name is Dissing, Las & Cross. Aside from this I have become a grandfather.”

Sounds all good; we need a live performance.

Janet Furman, who introduced the **Billy Cross** video at our dinner, is enjoying time with two young grandchildren, “dividing my time between two California homes, one in Marin County, just north of SF, and the other in La Jolla. I am still avid about my two hobbies: cycling — I try to ride 20 miles a day with my partner, Laurie — and playing bass guitar in a cover band called Blondiva, gigging mainly in bars and restaurants in the North Bay. Still chasing my rock fantasy.”

Robert Brandt is traveling in Africa.

I like the idea of Cross and Furman as a group. Brandt could play bass, I think. We could have them play for the class.

From Los Angeles, **Frank Costello** is 76 and was off for a month’s vacation in the United Kingdom and Norway. “First trip out of the country in three years,” he notes.

He said Eric Garcetti ’92, SIPA’93 was a good mayor.

I worked with some of Frank’s colleagues at Holland & Knight in various parts of the country years ago.

Art Kaufman is, I believe, planning a trip to Paris and is starting his 21st year teaching at the Law School. He says he is looking forward to the football season. I am, too, along with Peter Hiebert ’71, who lives in Miami Beach near me. We are going to fly to NYC for some games. Al Bagnoli is an incredible coach, and this could be a great season. We have had some great wins under his stewardship … Go Lions!

I hope some of you can make it to Homecoming on Saturday, October 22. We have a great quarterback. **Paul de Bary** will be there; he holds the class record for attendance. I had hoped to see him and his wife, Stefania, in Saratoga this summer. **Dennis Gort** is also in that area, and I hoped to see him, too. He is an expert on the horse racing world, so I will, in good humor, win big at the racetrack.

I got a call from **John Chee**, who was checking in from the West Coast while visiting his kids and grandkids. He was off to Boston to spend time with his other grandkids. I forgot to ask him if he had left Hong Kong.

Art Linker is in Scarsdale, N.Y., focusing on woodworking, woodturning and astronomy, studying physics and astrophysics, and enjoying life with his wife, children and six grandchildren.

I asked him about **David Heim**, who teaches woodworking and yes, he knows David and has taken a class with him, I believe.

Peter Hiebert ’71 ran into **Tom Kline**, who recently changed law firms, in Washington, D.C. Tom is going to continue to do art, museum and cultural heritage law at Schindler Cohen & Hochman. He and a longtime colleague went there and have represented a range of clients including Christie’s Auction House, Ron Lauder, artists, collectors and nonprofits, and has dealt with stolen art from Holocaust victims and others. Tom is teaching at The George Washington University, too.

I wanted to lift the Gustav Klimt - Adele Bloch-Bauer painting and bring it to my home, but I couldn’t figure out how to do it and not get caught. It would be a great addition to my modest print collection. I suppose I could hire Gal Gadot to help me.

Bruce Levin, Professor Emeritus of Biostatistics the Mailman School of Public Health, and his wife, Betty BC’69, PH’86, are doing well. Bruce writes, “We both retired in 2019, Betty from CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and I from Columbia. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in late January 2020.”

Bruce reports that during early Covid-19 he worked on a few mathematical research papers that he had wanted to write for a while, and then he and Betty visited their daughter and family in Toronto. Next, they went to their second home, in Nova Scotia, for 16 months, “in idyllic fashion. Today we are splitting time between Canada and the United States, fixing up the houses and watching our grandchildren, ages 16, 13 and 6, grow up and flourish.”

Bruce finishes with, “Looking forward to our 55th reunion!”

Bruce, I believe **Chris Friedrichs** lives in Toronto.

Leigh-Wai Doo wrote and spoke warmly of **John Roy.** Leigh-Wai is in Hawaii, having returned there after Harvard. He had been “a local Hawaiian surfer kid with polio legs” before Columbia and “used my training to help start Hawaii’s only law school, be a Honolulu city council member to preserve our countryside by creating Oahu’s second city and build international peace” through a nonprofit. He noted his “deep appreciation of the Core Curriculum and Columbia’s core values.”

Lastly, **Fred Pugarelli** is happily living in the Fort Myers area of Florida and is definitely coming to our 55th reunion!

So, send in news, and block out a few days for reunion in June. I guarantee we all will have some fun and laughter and a chance to see the wondrous campus and reminisce.

Please be well. As **Tom Sanford** said at our 40th reunion, exercise is a good thing!

1969

Nathaniel Wander
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Reflecting on experiences “as a comparative lit major,” **Gerry Speca** was reminded of two interactions with then-Brander Mathews Professor Eric Bentley that demonstrated a generosity of spirit and an exceptional willingness to be self-critical. “For one class assignment,” Gerry relates, “I had the temerity to write a paper suggesting that *Brecht on Theatre* and the spectacles presented on Broadway had enough in common to be at least distant cousins. My attempt was ham-handed and more than a little incomplete, which Bentley firmly indicated in his comments, but he also applauded my pluck and encouraged me to pursue further what he found to be an intriguing proposition. Did I hear somebody say ‘constructive criticism’?”

Gerry also recalls "Bentley asking if we had read his introduction to Brecht's *The Mother*. Bentley smiled a wry smile, suggesting that he might be up to some kind of mischief, and then said something to this effect: 'Well, actually I was full of shit when I wrote that. Now, I'd like to share my re-thinking of the play.' That was the first time I had ever heard a person of stature, authority or acknowledged expertise admit they had been mistaken, that they had changed their mind and rethought pronouncements — another epiphany I've carried with me ever since. Bentley shocked me into examining and exploring before evaluating; he showed that it was permissible for one's thinking to evolve and to be reshaped. For this kid from small-town western Pennsylvania, this was a striking, life-changing message."

James Alloy writes, "I am enjoying retirement, spending the winter and spring months on Amelia Island, Fla., and the rest of the time in Devon, Pa., to which my wife, Bonnie, and I moved to be closer to our grandchildren. I stay active playing tennis several times a week and have recently been elected to the homeowners' council in our condominium complex.

Don Linder '71, GSAS'76 has been living in Thailand for more than 20 years. His newest film, The Cave, *will open in October.*

"In June, Bonnie and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary. We were married at the chapel on the Columbia campus, and have had a wonderful life together. The Columbia campus is still a destination I seek when in New York City, as it has grown more beautiful every time I visit. I am still an avid follower of Lions football and baseball and will go to games whenever I can. I spend most of the time at those games tailgating with many old teammates.

"It seems like yesterday that we observed our 50th reunion on campus, and I was happy to econnect with many classmates. Sadly, I missed two of my best friends from my college years, **Max Carey** and **Ron Rosenblatt**, who were great friends then and remained so until their passing.

"I hope all of you in the Class of 1969 are well and hope that our paths cross again soon."

John Wagner reports: "I've been living in Xalapa, Veracruz, with my husband, Samuel, for 12 years. Xalapa is the state capital and home to the oldest and, some say, the best symphony orchestra in the republic as well as its second-best anthropology museum, where many of the famous Olmec heads are on display. We live in the clouds at 4,500 ft.; our weather is more like Seattle's than Phoenix's. From our front yard we have a view of the city, and from the back a panorama of the Sierra Madre Oriental. Our garden is home to a Norfolk Island pine, a Monkey Puzzle tree, a three-story-tall cactus, an oak named for our city (*Quercus xalapensis*) and 30–40 species of orchids. Some mornings I wake up, look out the window, and think I'm already in paradise."

Hart Perry writes: "I have become a grandfather, and I have been teaching a special project in holography at Bard College. I have lasers and a laboratory to make large-scale holograms."

Irving Ruderman reports that he and **Richard Rapaport** carried the class banner in the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day on May 17. Rich's son Hart '22 received the Campbell Award, celebrating "a student leader at each school who exemplifies exceptional leadership and builds Columbia spirit." Irv reports his joy at having seen all of the home games (Passover excluded) of Columbia's 19-wins-in-a-row, Ivy League-crown baseball team.

Howard Lemberg writes: "I'm not thinking about the finish line, but about the amazing and continuing journey! In grad school two years after college, a near-death experience landed me in the hospital for a few weeks. Since then, every day has been a gift to learn something, work creatively with fascinating people, make progress moving a few mountains and add innovative insights to the high-tech career I pursued for more than 40 years.

"Interests in the humanities and social sciences always enriched and empowered my goals and approach to life, family and career. My daughters, both with their own deep connections to Columbia, are well launched on careers in medicine and history, reflecting the influence of the College's liberal arts focus on me.

"More than 50 years after graduation, I still exemplify the cheeky triumphalism of Ozymandias in Shelley's sonnet, paraphrasing: — 'You had your chance to look on my works, ye mighty, and you missed it!' — but Tennyson's *Ulysses* comes even closer to the summing up the celebratory spirit of this life's journey, with each day the dawn of new possibilities and adventures. 'That which we are, we are, / One equal temper of heroic hearts, / ... [still] strong in will / To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.'"

Henry Jackson writes, "I'm enjoying short walks, reading about the late days of the Hapsburg empire and the beautiful weather. All things considered, I'm content."

Frank Eld has become one of the few 75-year-olds "to pick up a sheepskin as a master of applied historical research from Boise State University. My philosophy is we are never too old to gain more education." Frank will "head east to continue my research and documentation of original Finnish log construction, and returning to writing my second book concentrating on the sauna."

Nathaniel Wander has "turned professional" as a painter. He sold his first watercolor commission — a European Green Woodpecker — to a Dutch photographer, and in June, a dozen acrylic pieces on stone and ceramic tile at a local art fair (online: bit.ly/3d0QsE7).

Introduced by the stepdaughters of an ancient Portland, Ore., friend, Neal Rendleman '71, GSAS'76, to an international game of hiding painted stones to be collected or rehidden, Nathaniel discovered hitherto unimagined talents. With practices acquired online — "There's almost nothing that can't be learned from YouTube" — he taught himself how to represent motion, dimensionality, distance: "Working out painting techniques is the perfect combination of art and science."

From acrylics, Nathaniel moved to watercolor, his true love. "Von Humboldt, Darwin, Wallace, all my earliest heroes, had only sketching and painting to document field discoveries: skills the camera largely eroded. Watercolor painting brings me closer to those naturalists and explorers and turning photos back into paintings is particularly fun."

Following a summer full of art fairs, Nathaniel "looks forward to establishing a stature in the art world between that of Pablo Picasso and Winston Churchill."

Please send me your latest news. Write to the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1970

Leo Kailas
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Writing these Class Notes from the island of Paros in the Aegean and hoping everyone had a good summer. In the way of news, Dr. **Paul Rosen** attended Reunion 2022 as the only member of the Class of 1970 and spent time at a Friday dinner with members of the Classes of 1972 and 1975. I would have attended but was on my way to Greece that Friday night.

My friend Professor **David Lehman** writes: "My book *The Mysterious Romance of Murder: Crime, Detection, and the Spirit of Noir* came out in May. It boasts blurbs from Paul Auster '69, GSAS'70 and Eddie Muller and has a beautiful cover. As a contributing editor of *The American Scholar,* I write about movies. Here's an example: theamericanscholar.org/the-last-cigarette."

Also from the academic world, Professor **Paul Starr** reports: "Some members of the class might remember Daniel Bell, who was a professor of sociology at Columbia when we were undergraduates. Bell's work is the subject of a new book that I've co-edited with Julian Zelizer: *Defining the Age: Daniel Bell, His Time and Ours.*"

And I suspect many of you do remember Professor Bell!

Professor **Larry Rosenwald** GSAS'79 of Wellesley College sent his news: "Well, I've now retired.

Not big news by itself, admittedly. Maybe more interesting is that preposterously enough, my colleague Thomas Nolden has put together a two-volume *Festschrift* in my honor (a collection of essays on the theme of translation understood broadly, some directly about me but most not). The first volume, *Beyond the Textual: Practices of Translation and Adaptation,* has been published and can be ordered at amazon.co.uk; the second, *In the Face of Adversity,* will be out in the fall."

Continuing with our professor report, **David Sokolow** GSAS'71, LAW'79 notes: "**Ted Wirecki, Joel Mintz** LAW'89 and I have met up each of the last 15 years (except 2020) for a guys' trip to a different place, including Napa, Savannah, Charleston and Santa Fe. This year was no exception. We spent four days in Asheville, N.C., lounging by the pool, hiking, touring the Biltmore Estate and eating great food. We had planned to go to India each of the last two years, but Covid-19 got in the way. Undeterred, we are going this fall. If anyone has suggestions, please let me know (dsokolow@law.utexas.edu).

"Ted and Joel are retired. Ted and his wife, Martha, still live in Denver, but Joel and his wife, Meri-Jane BC'71, moved back to New York from Miami. I still teach at The University of Texas School of Law (41 years), but only one semester per year. I still love teaching, so I don't plan to retire any time soon, although my wife, Tobi, might have something to say about that!"

Carl Hyndman GSAS'74 sent a brief note: "Was to have a book signing for my novel *Bookstore on the Seine* in Ventura this past summer. Story is set in my current domicile of Ojai and Santa Barbara County. Hats off to **Lewis Siegelbaum,** who has made the move to California."

Steve Stahler shares: "In January I retired from teaching physics and astronomy at UC Berkeley. However, I continue to remain active as an astrophysicist. I am writing the second edition of my graduate-level textbook, *The Formation of Stars,* first published in 2004. The new edition will include all new astronomy images. I am also hard at work on several fascinating research projects, including the origin of stellar clusters. Nature's secrets continue to reveal themselves."

1971

Lew Preschel
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Paul Armstrong SEAS'73 reports that he and **John Jaeger** met for lunch while he was in New York and then they watched the season-opening baseball game at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium. The baseball team came from behind to win 5 to 4.

Don Linder GSAS'76 has been living in Thailand for more than 20 years. He regrets Covid-19 caused him to recently discontinue his yearly visits to the States and his true homeland, the Upper West Side. He hopes to resume them soon. He was the academic director for the American University Alumni Language Center. Subsequently, he wrote films and series scripts full time. In 2015, Don's film *The Last Executioner* played in more than 100 countries and was shown on Netflix. It was named Best Film and Best Screenplay at Thailand's Tukata Tong Awards in 2015. Don became the first non-Thai to win the award since its inception more than 65 years ago. His newest film, *The Cave,* will open in October.

Don lives with his wife, Wannida Jiatha, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. They welcome visitors. His email is donlinder@gmail.com.

Columbia men's soccer coach Kevin Anderson has a monthly Zoom session at which he invites former players to speak. The alumni guest speaker at the June 6 session was **Len Renery.** Len and **Rocco Commisso SEAS'71,** BUS'75 were the captains of the 1970 team that made the NCAA tournament. Rocco also participated in the Zoom session, along with **Rinaldo Veseliza SEAS'71, Joe Koch, Ken Lehn** LAW'74, me and Coach Jim Rein, who lead that group where no other Columbia soccer team had ever gone before. I noticed that Ellis Galimidi SEAS'72, SEAS'73, BUS'77 and John Gardner '70 were signed in as well. I apologize to anyone from that era who was at the Zoom session whom I missed noting.

In researching this event I came across old *Spectator* articles about that fabulous team. Not present for the session but meriting mention is the great scoring machine **Omar Chamma** SIPA'73 Also of note, several of the articles reviewed researching that history were written by **Peter Hiebert.**

Peter organized with the Reunion Committee "the do-over reunion." Delayed but not forgotten, our 50th reunion was not lost thanks to that committee's diligent work. We owe them a debt of gratitude because they worked on this project two times.

During the weekend of June 9–12, on campus and off campus, more than 20 classmates returned to celebrate our belated 50th. They visited the "spectacular" new buildings on the Manhattanville campus, under blues skies and perfect weather. A wonderful opportunity to become reacquainted, catch up, reminisce and share experiences with classmates and old friends were offered by events such as an all-class party at Chelsea Piers, a class dinner at Faculty House and the Starlight Celebration on Low Plaza.

Classmates and spouses attending more than one event were **John Bleimaier; Jonathan Brent; Chris Campbell; Terry Kogan** and Greg Hatch; **John Carey; Ray Gaspard** and Bridget Gaspard; **Josh Rubenstein** and Jill Janows; **Ken Lehn; Chris Moriarty; Julio Rivera; Bill Christophersen; Larry Rabinowitz; Irwin Warren** and Elizabeth Warren; **Larry Weiss; Peter Hiebert; Tony Dupee;** and **Richard Squires.**

It is more than 50 years since we graduated. Forged in the 1968 on-campus protests, we have made our mark on the world. Some of us are more famous than others, but each of us has moved the needle by which society judges and is judged. We should be proud of what we have accomplished and the things we have created. Why not send me a line at l.a.preschel@gmail.com to tell us your story, classmate?

1972

Paul Appelbaum
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It was a splendid 50th reunion for the Class of '72! With a mix of events for alumni of all classes and a generous heaping of class-specific activities, the weekend of June 9–12 saw the biggest turnout ever for a reunion from our class. The weekend began with a Class of '72 meetup at the Whitney Museum of American Art in the Meatpacking District, where I met **Bob Grey** in the lobby. Bob led the Reunion Committee and deserves many kudos for its success. After perusing the Whitney's exhibition of its early 20th-century collection, where I spotted **George Arnold,** who has had an outstanding career in technology, including more than 30 years at Bell Labs, and his wife, I strolled up the High Line with two classmates in from California: **Bob Williams,** who splits his time between Oakland and Puerto Vallarta, and **Rick Avila,** who practices bankruptcy law in San Francisco. We headed for a gallery in Chelsea where Bob had arranged a class reception.

Over a beer or glass of wine at the gallery, a good-sized crowd had a chance to catch up with people they hadn't seen for years. **Emilio Carrillo** told me he's now practicing internal medicine on the Cornell faculty. **Arnold Horowitz** brought his son, a new college grad, and **Mark Mandell,** now retired from emergency medicine, was there with his wife. **Bill Geissler** was snapping pictures (with a camera, mind you, not a phone) and I chatted with **Ben Lieber,** now retired from Amherst, where he spent many years as dean of students and taught English.

Friday began with a group breakfast, followed by the first of our class panels: Innovate or Deteriorate — What's in Our Future?, which **Ben Lieber** moderated. **Mike Gerrard,** who teaches climate law at the Law School, spoke about the threat of climate change, but also what can be done to mitigate it. **Sean Wilentz,** a professor of history at Princeton, talked about the current threats to American democracy. And I spoke, in a more hopeful vein, about the future of medicine, including the development of mRNA vaccines and new techniques, like polygenic risk scores, for predicting predispositions to complex diseases.

After lunch under a tent on South Field, for which I was joined by **Steve Bellovin,** whom I've known since we began seventh grade together and who is now a professor of computer science at Columbia, our second class session began. With an open mic passed around the room, people talked about their most memorable recollections of their time at Columbia (there was more than one

Woodstock anecdote) and offered their reflections on the world today. Although I missed it, the highlight of the evening was an all-class reception at Chelsea Piers.

On Saturday morning, a breakfast in Alfred Lerner Hall was capped by what I was told was a moving tribute to Dean James J. Valentini, who stepped down on June 30 after 11 years as dean of the College. Our class luncheon was held at Faculty House. **Gerard Papa** was at my table, accompanied by one of the players from his amazing Flames youth basketball program in Brooklyn, and still living in the house in which he was raised. In 2018, *The New York Times* reported that more than 20,000 young men had participated in the Flames over the years, a rare and valuable effort to bring together young people across what have often been tense racial boundaries in the neighborhoods of Brooklyn.

The postprandial program was a panel on The Next Act - 50 Years Later, superbly moderated by **Jed Perl**, who reflected on his career as a writer and editor, including the challenges of penury that many nascent writers confront. **Armen Donelian**, jazz pianist extraordinaire, spoke to us from his home in Hudson, N.Y., talking about the challenges he'd faced in his career and his plans to continue to perform and teach in the future. **Andrew Kaslow** TC'79 described his transitions from a jazz saxophonist who studied and played with some of the best jazz musicians in the world to a Ph.D. in anthropology at Columbia, to the world of business, where he served as head of HR for some of the largest corporations in the country, to helping to nurture startsup and executive coaching, which he plans to continue. **Emilio Carrillo** reflected on his activism during his Columbia days, which resulted in permanent housing for scores of families, and how he continued his work to help the least advantaged as head of NYC's Health + Hospitals Corp. and then as VP for community health development at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital. If there was a common thread, I think it was that people who enjoy what they are doing will find ways to continue to do it.

There were a variety of activities — or just downtime — on Saturday afternoon, including a wine tasting on Low Plaza. The day, and our Class of '72 program, culminated in our class reception and dinner at the new Lenfest Center for the Arts on the Manhattanville campus (which is something to see next time you're in NYC). A somber note was added by the list of our classmates who are no longer with us on an easel. At my table was **Stephen Johnson**, who started the College with us but left after two years. (We'd heard earlier in the weekend that close to 30 percent of our entering class did not complete college in those tumultuous times.) He later talked his way into taking courses at the Architecture School and, again without a degree, passed the licensure exam and was on his way to a career in architecture, with a particular focus on designing library and academic buildings. After many years in Los Angeles, he returned to New York a decade ago and now leads the Fundación Amistad, which promotes historic preservation and other projects in Cuba.

The dinner was capped by a talk from **Gerry Lynch**, our erstwhile valedictorian and now a senior judge on the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals. Gerry's observation that as people age they have always tended to become more pessimistic about the future and what the world will be like in the hands of the younger generations particularly resonated with me. An inclination to succumb to that tendency may have raised its head over the course of the weekend, but I do hope we resist. After 50 years, I think it's safe to start turning the world over to the graduates who followed us, many of them full of energy, ideas and enthusiasm.

Part of the reunion program was the creation of a website where members of our class could post a page telling everyone what they've been up to. You can access that at columbia.brightcrowd.com/1972, and I encourage you to do so, since it contains much more information about many more people than I could include in this column (and apologies to the reunioners I didn't mention).

If I've made you regret not having been at reunion, keep in mind that in just five years, we will celebrate our 55th. I hope to see all of you then.

CCT HAS MORE ONLINE STORIES THAN EVER!

READ WHAT'S NEW AT
college.columbia.edu/cct

CCT

1973

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Barry Etra
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As we move through Our Year of Covid III, uncertainty still reigns. We cannot but yearn for the *CCT* issue when this is not an … issue.

Allen Schill writes of a new art project, consisting of a series of shallow wood boxes with tags arranged in rows with images on them "from the horrific to the beatific": online at bit.ly/3oueDNW.

Interesting stuff. Continuing with the artful theme, **Maurice Peterson** updated us that he is featured on video in the Norman Rockwell Museum; his solo exhibition, *Rockwell Revisited,* will soon be a permanent 360-degree virtual tour on its website.

Steve Sims SW'75 has retired to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., but remains active. He is on the board of HOPE South Florida, which assists the homeless and veterans; consults with the National Minority Supplier Development Council; and is working on the change of leadership of the Columbia/Barnard Black and Latino Alumni Group, as well as a few other ventures. He hopes to get to see his daughter in England, whom he hasn't seen in person in three years! He keeps up with **Eric H. Holder Jr.** LAW'76, **James Whitlow** LAW'76, **Louis Keyes** BUS'78, Garrett McK. Johnson '74, Bruce King '74, Sylvester Conyers '74 and others, and wants to acknowledge some who have passed: **John Moore** LAW'76, **Julius Gonzalez** and Raymond Reed '74. And he recommends Eric's book, *Our Unfinished March: The Violent Past and Imperiled Future of the Vote — A History, a Crisis, a Plan,* highly.

Guadalupe San Miguel's new book, *In the Midst of Radicalism: Mexican-American Moderates During the Chicano Movement 1960–78,* also came out recently.

Be well and stay well through our eighth decade! Hasta.

1974

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It feels like "déjà vu all over again" (as Yogi Berra is oft quoted as saying). As I write this column in late June, the Supreme Court's rulings to repeal *Roe v. Wade* has renewed the fire on both sides of the abortion debate, the same as in 1973 when it became law. The court also ruled against a 1911 New York law that restricted who can carry a concealed weapon. The issues were similar to those brought up in the Gun Control Act of 1968 following the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. The hearings about President Donald Trump's role in the January 6, 2021, riot at the Capitol seems to echo the Watergate break-in and the near-impeachment of President Richard Nixon. Is it really necessary to make us relive the same issues after half a century?

Who remembers in our first couple of years on campus seeing guys on campus wearing purple armbands? In my naive days it took me a while before I realized they were quietly proclaiming they were gay. I had forgotten all about this until I received an email from *Columbia* magazine (the University alumni publication) during June, "Pride Month." The email noted that while there are now thousands of LGBTQ groups on college campuses around the world, in 1966 there was only one: the Columbia Queer Alliance. While you might think of Furnald as the home of the Furnald Folk Festival or where the coeducational sauna was located, the article said the dorm also had the alliance's meeting room tucked away in the basement. The alliance held clandestine gatherings there on Sunday afternoons. Not sure if they donned purple armbands.

News came in that **Darryl Downing** was named "Man of the Year" by a New York City group, The Riverside Club, as part of its 40th Founders Day observance. Darryl is the founder and longtime chair of the I AM HARLEM consultancy, a marketing company for small businesses and cultural institutions in the greater Harlem community. He has also been associated with the New Heritage Theatre Group (New York's oldest not-for-profit theater), the Harlem Business Alliance and the Harlem School of the Arts.

Seems like few of us took "gap years" between high school and college. I was envious when I heard that **Jon Cuneo**'s son, Eli, is about to leave on a great adventure between his graduation from the Lab School (a Washington, D.C., high school) and attending American University in D.C. He will take part in a program called Sea|mester, where he will spend several months exploring various islands in the Caribbean before sailing across the Atlantic and around the Mediterranean. While on board he will take classes in nautical science and oceanography.

Hope they will start a "gap year" program for older folks for the period following a work career and retirement!

Dr. **Mark Lebwohl** (lives in Manhattan) splits his work days between seeing dermatology patients at Mount Sinai Hospital and being a dean for clinical therapeutics at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. He tells us he now has four grandchildren, two from Andy '04, LAW'07 and two from Eve. Mark says that Andy taught his kids to sing "Roar, Lion, Roar" during the Passover seder. He tells us, "The whole family is run by our grandkids!"

Some quick notes: **Peter Sullivan** (a retired lawyer in Montecito, Calif.) now has a second grandchild: a previously reported granddaughter from Hilary '07 and now a grandson from Carly '07 (yes, the twin sisters both went to the College). **Stuart Offner** (a lawyer in Boston) has his first grandchild, Jack. **Larry Silverman** (a retired lawyer who lives in Manhattan and increasingly in Amagansett, N.Y.) sends word that his son, Jacob, was married in Toronto last summer.

This just in: **Frank P. Bruno** writes, "I retired from Sidley Austin and the practice of law at the end of 2020. In retirement, I have spent a lot of time reading, walking, playing tennis and spending time with my four grandchildren. Also, I have done some genealogical research and have discovered an interesting Columbia connection. It turns out that through my mother's family, Elizabeth Schuyler Hamilton, wife of Alexander Hamilton CC 1778, is my fourth cousin. Perhaps I could have applied to Columbia as a legacy!"

Once again, some sad news to report. I saw a Facebook post from the sister of **Andy Tron** announcing his death on May 27, 2022. After graduating from the College with a degree in English, he earned a J.D. from Brooklyn Law in 1981 and then an M.Ed. from Long Island University in 2001. Andy, a longtime Bedford Hills, N.Y., resident, was the sole proprietor of a lighting and staging company that he started in 1996. Starting in 2004 he also spent a decade as a teacher at the Bedford Discovery Early Childhood Center, where he designed and implemented curricula for an after-school enrichment program for kids in kindergarten to third grade. While all too short, Andy's life was certainly a full one. See this issue's "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct, for more on Andy.

Remember when you would stare at the Tom's menu trying to choose a $4 entree (which included salad, two veggies and a cup of "creamo")? Off on the side was its "Famous Shish-ka-bob" that cost something like $10 (far too expensive for most of us). While on a walk, I checked out the current menu in the window and saw that the Shish-ka-bob now costs $29.95. But the big surprise was Tom's is now offering a rib-eye steak for $38! Now that's inflation!

There you have it. A mixture of working classmates and those opting for retirement. A lot of joy from new grandchildren, while some sorrow comes as we lose another one of our own. If you have something to add to the Class of '74 pastiche, please take a moment to pass it on! Please note my new email address, at the top of the column.

1975

Columbia College Today
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CCT reached out for news this round, and we heard from **Bruce J. Einhorn**, a judge and a professor: "I send warm regards to classmates, who helped make my Columbia experience such a joy. I am a retired federal judge, a law professor at Pepperdine University Law School, a visiting prof of law at the University of Oxford and a member of the British Institute for International Affairs. I live on the California Central Coast in wine country. Come visit!"

Starting with the Winter 2022–23 issue, **Robert "Bob/Waz" Wazevich** will take over as class correspondent. Please send your news to him going forward by email at bwazevich@gmail.com or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

1976

Ken Howitt
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Thanks to all who sent in updates! I have very little to do but copy and paste from the many emails.

Hasan Bazari GSAS'79 and I enjoyed a wonderful July kickoff reception for the Patricia Geisler Scholarship Fund that Hasan and Wilson Ko '78 endowed. Patsy looks great and her family is amazing.

Hasan also reported a May trip to India for his niece's wedding. Several young women in his family are pursuing careers in medicine. No doubt the retired doctor Hasan is an inspiration.

John Markowitz GSAS'78, PS'82 wrote: "My book *Brief Supportive Psychotherapy: A Treatment Manual and Clinical Approach* came out in August. Supportive psychotherapy has gotten an unfair reputation as a weak treatment, but we found in a series of studies that when carefully delivered it's usually just as helpful in treating depression as the fancier therapies. Still working at Columbia/New York State Psychiatric Institute trying to do clinical research."

Batting in the number 3 hole, **Kevin Berry**: "Honestly, not much to report here from the City of (Not so) Brotherly Love. Preparing for a few trials the rest of this year and spending as much time as possible with my blended family of six children and five grandchildren. Share time between here and Palm Beach, Fla., where we have a place. The pandemic has put a serious crimp in our traveling. Have not seen many from the old days (few are here in Philadelphia) and have not been to New York since pre-pandemic days."

Geno Rice: "I can boast I have a granddaughter, Alice (3) and a grandson, Eliot (1). My son Daniel and his family live in Michigan so we drive I-80 a lot. He went to U Mich and never came back! I retired mid-2021; that lasted nine months, and I recently started a job at a hi-tech startup in Princeton."

Richard Rohr, as usual, has a report on Reunion 2022, held June 9–12: "It was kind of a subdued affair; not many people there and not much energy. Dean [James J.] Valentini talked about his experience leading the College, and about a course he is going to develop that will focus on perception, transcending science and the humanities."

Charles Martin: "I'm happy to note that my Hong Kong suspense novel, *Neon Panic*, which recently appeared on a list of "Best Mysteries in the World of Classical Music" (online: bit.ly/3Pxsej7), is finally available in ebook form pretty much everywhere. Also, I recently typed 'The End' on a new Seattle-based crime novel and am preparing to shop it around. Apart from that, I'm working away on my new novel in my office in a 1957 Airstream trailer and remain grateful that I'm in the not-too-hot and not-too-cold Pacific Northwest."

Burton Dickey is coming back to NYC! "We are in the process of purchasing an apartment in Chelsea, and plan to split our time between Houston and NYC, so maybe I'll get more involved going forward," he writes.

Edward Wolf: "I've been sojourning in Baltimore for 39 years with my wife, Faith (Mt. Holyoke '76), and family waiting for the next issue of *Course Guide* to arrive so I know what easy A to sign up for in the coming semester. I am the president of Woodholme Gastroenterology, a 16-physician group. Faith and I have three sons: Josh ('02 Yale), married to Risa Small ('04 Penn); Ariel ('05 Harvard), married to Andrea Brem ('05 Penn); and Gideon '14, engaged to Molly Himmelrich ('15 Wash U); and a daughter, Jana BC'07, married to Brian Ponczak ('02 Wash U). Our grandchildren are a source of much joy and all live in either Baltimore or D.C. If you are passing through Baltimore, please look me up."

Robert Siegfried SEAS'78: "I was back in the classroom at Adelphi live and in person last fall; students on any given day could come to class online or in person and it combined the worst aspects of both. We did not repeat that mistake this past spring; my classes were all in person except for the week I tested positive for Covid-19. This summer, my plans involved time at the beach and authoring an online class for Adelphi's M.S. in Computer Science program. Some people seem surprised that I have no immediate plans to retire. I enjoy my job and it neither has the physical stress of construction work nor the psychological stress of litigation or the stock market. For right now, it's a matter of getting myself back in shape to bike the three miles from my house in Oceanside, Long Island, to Long Beach."

Baruch "Barney" Schwartz is still teaching biblical studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with one more year before mandatory retirement, after which he expects finally to get some real work done on his research. He reports – in order of importance – that he has six grandchildren, aged 2–10, and that he has a book and several articles in the pipeline. Interested in the Pentateuch and its sources? Look for Baruch J. Schwartz on academia.edu.

After 30 years of teaching Russian language, literature and cinema at Colby College, The College of William and Mary and The New School, **Tony Anemone** has called it quits. So far retirement has been, mostly, great. He continues to write, mostly about Russian cinema, but is enjoying being part of "the great resignation." He's been catching up on reading outside his academic field, cooking, kayaking and taking photographs, and is looking forward to traveling more in the near future. He recently celebrated his 50th high school reunion and says he looks forward to celebrating in person with Columbia's '76ers in 2026.

David Merzel sent this update: "My wife, Dr. Linda Hertzberg, and I have retired to Park City, Utah, after 30 years in Fresno, Calif. We love the skiing, of course, but the summers are superb as well. We have been back and forth to Ann Arbor, Mich., to visit with our grandson, born in October. If only Ann Arbor were closer! As empty nesters we enjoy traveling and living the life of 'Parkites' in the Wasatch Mountains. I'm training for an inline skating marathon in Duluth, Minn., in September. At 7,000 ft. I should be in good shape when I get to sea level. If any '76ers plan to ski in Park City this coming winter, please get in touch."

Again, thanks for all the news! Please remember that we can always get some classmates together for lunch on Morningside Heights anytime. Just shoot me an email and we will make it work whenever you are around. Stay well!

1977

David Gorman
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No news to share this time. Please reach out to me by email or by using the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb that feature at least two CC alumni should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

1978

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Matthew Nemerson
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A record number of respondents this issue, just in time for the new, smaller print news hole thanks to inflation and lower returns on the University's endowment (fake news). Thus, we went over by 50 percent of the words allowed, so many of you will have to go to the online version of *CCT* (college.columbia.edu/cct) or even wait until next fall to find your greatly appreciated contributions! On the questions of the issue, most of you thought President Lee C. Bollinger will be best remembered for the Manhattanville campus. Other thoughts follow.

Big news from **Paul Phillips** GSAS'80: "After many years at Brown, in 2017 my wife, Kathryne Jennings, and I joined the faculty of Stanford. I'm the Gretchen B. Kimball Director of Orchestral Studies and she's the Billie Bennett Achilles Director of Vocal Studies. The Stanford orchestras performed *The Rite of Spring* and *Mahler's Symphony No. 2* and appeared at the Bermuda Festival of the Performing Arts in March. Our whole family now lives in California. Daughter Alanna, University of Vermont '21, is pursuing an acting career in Los Angeles (*Euphoria, The Dropout, The Afterparty*) while Joanna '12 is a film and TV editor (*Alice: Through the Looking Glass, Nomadland, This Is Us, The Wilds*)."

Robert Muirhead has happy news: "After 25 years in the finance biz running books for a series of insurance and banking concerns and another 20 in the consulting game doing the same (those who can't do, teach; those who can't teach, consult), I finally hung up my cleats at the end of February and am in full retirement mode.

"My wife, Susan, and I celebrated with a trip to Alaska in May. We had an amazing experience witnessing the wonders of nature. I now spend my time enjoying our lakefront cottage about an hour or so from our Connecticut home and teaching the four grandkids how to bait their own hooks and steer a kayak. Happy to note the next grandchild is reportedly due early December. Wishing you all good health and fine memories."

David Jachimczyk is another "longtime reader, first- (or maybe second-) time writer. I am basking in the glow of my family. My oldest, Ben, is in the band Something Fried, available on Spotify, and youngest, Danny — who has Down Syndrome and autism — is in his last year at The Westchester School. My wife, Carrie (Baruch '89; she's a practical Midwesterner!), after a 20-year career break, went back to work for a major New York bank in its corporate responsibility department."

Keeping on a family theme, **Thomas Reuter** notes, "My son Matthew '07 joined the faculty at Brown Medical School as an assistant professor of neurology, clinician educator. Timothy '11 took part in the great resignation and moved to Washington, D.C., to join the Atlantic Council think tank.

"I will have spent some at the races this past July in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., with my old roommate Dr. **Jerry Gallucci**."

Almost family to me, my WKCR AM *Mutt and Jeff Show* partner and former *New York Times* NHL beat reporter **Jeff Klein** writes, "You have shamed me into relaying this news: I recently returned to my Morningside Gardens apartment after two pandemic-flight years in Buffalo. That meant rerouting my mail to NYC ... and what was one of the first pieces of mail in my West 123rd Street mailbox? A piece of junk mail addressed to Jeffrey Jullich GS'95! Here's the thing: Jullich never lived in my apartment, and I haven't seen him in at least eight years, though I probably ran into him every few years in the neighborhood.

"Coincidence? Perhaps ... but then again, as Rod Serling used to say, how many coincidences add up to a fact? Anyway, I subsequently learned that Jeffrey is a prize-winning poet who did something at the Columbia Business School. So, hello out there wherever you are, Jeffrey!"

For the rest of you, I need to say this is not an acceptable Class Note by any normal standard, but it's so good to hear from Jeff that I will use class correspondent's discretion and let it pass, using up valuable space. Back to the real world …

"My wife and I live in Laguna Woods, Calif., near Irvine," writes **John Prudden**. "I've been retired for years, and needed to figure out how to spend my time. Golf and tennis are a good idea, but these bones are getting creaky. So, I've taken many art classes: painting, drawing, pottery and sculpture. I enjoy it immensely, and I get better every day."

From the word processor of **Marc Bogatin**, "Last spring my wife, Barbara, and I took a road trip to Kansas City for the barbecue. We stopped at Presidents' houses on the route: Buchanan, Taft, McKinley, Hayes, Harding, Garfield, W.H. Harrison and Benjamin Harrison in Indiana, Lincoln (Illinois and Kentucky) and Truman (Missouri). We enjoyed dinner with **Hugh Weinberg** and his wife, Renee Lewin. Hugh relocated to Cleveland from New York several years ago, and I had not seen him since."

Wilson Ko writes, "I apologize for any inactivity on the Class Notes!"

All is forgiven.

Wilson continues: "I am in the twilight of a fulfilling and gratifying medical career. I have two daughters and two sons; the former were both fortunate to have attended Columbia. I recently started a scholarship in the name of Dean Patricia Geisler, the premedical dean for more 30 years at Columbia. She was instrumental in my college years and continues to be a friend and second mother to me."

Keeping with our retirement theme: **Joseph Michael Schachner** SEAS'79 wants us to know, "This will likely be the last message about my career because I intend to retire in March. I hope to travel with my wife, while we are still really able. Perhaps visit my grandchildren in San Diego without worrying about using up my vacation days. I applaud President Bollinger for expanding Columbia's status in the study of neurosciences."

Stephen Zades BUS'84 says he is "happily retired and living on Siesta Key near Sarasota, Fla. I chose the College as the most international Ivy in the most diverse city. That cultural exposure led me to a global career in innovation in Asia and Europe. I think President Bollinger has seen tremendous growth and expansion in faculty, facilities, endowment and keeping Columbia on top."

The plight of commuters and their estrangement from those of us who lived on campus continues. **Raymond Gietz** LAW'81 opines, "As I believe I've written, I didn't know one soul in the Class of 1978. I had a few friends in Engineering, a few in the Class of 1979. This was the result of being a transfer into Engineering and then into the College, and a commuter my entire three years.

"Still, I do enjoy reading the Class Notes and sometimes feel lucky to know folks if even through this column.

"Thanks!"

And now I invite you to check out *CCT* online (college.columbia.edu/cct), where there are more notes for your consideration. And to **Christopher Allegaert** and his friends, apologies, but you will have to wait until next issue.

Please know that in addition to the great work of the *CCT* staff of putting up with us, I thank everyone in the Class of 1978 for their good humor, interesting comments and willingness to share information with each other!

1979

Robert C. Klapper
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David Friedman PS'83 writes, "My wife and I have been spending a lot of time on the Morningside and Washington Heights campuses, as our son Daniel '16, BUS'22, PS'22 graduated as an M.B.A./M.D. in May. It's very rewarding for me to have seen him follow in my footsteps at the College and Medical School, although unlike me he was smart enough to also get an M.B.A. He's in Boston doing an anesthesiology residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. (See the nearby photo.)

"I am professor of neuroradiology at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, although I now work part time. My wife of 37 years, Elizabeth, is a pediatrician in private practice. She has a Columbia connection as well, having completed her residency at NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital.

"My roots to Columbia run deeper than I could have imagined, and the lessons I learned at the College from authors like Montaigne, and at the Medical School from professors like Eric Kandel, have served me well in both my personal and professional lives. I send regards to all classmates from the College and P&S. Time flies!"

Jeff Frieden GSAS'84 teaches international politics/international economics in the Department of Government at Harvard. "I've been department chair for the past three awful years," he writes. "In partial compensation, I have the coming academic year off as sabbatical and we'll return home to New York — and I'll be affiliated with Columbia. Looking forward to it!"

630
Vagelos
College of
Physicians
and Surgeons

ELIZABETH FRIEDMAN

David Friedman '79 with his son Daniel Friedman '16 at Daniel's P&S graduation on May 18.

Robert C. Klapper: "Today's Columbia thought comes from the wonderful world of climate change. Living in Los Angeles these past many decades has been for the sole purpose that I get to surf on my days off. What began as a luxury and pleasure has now become a religious experience and a necessity in my life. Southern California pretty much has beautiful weather year-round so the only opportunity I get to feel seasonal changes is in the temperature of the water and the waves that I ride. I go from wearing a thick neoprene wetsuit and then literally in a single day the need for that wetsuit seems to disappear. As I was sitting in the ocean recently looking out at the horizon in Ventura (my home break), I realized the water was no longer as cold as it had been the day before. That sudden change in season reminded me of my four years at Columbia.

"In studying the early days of computer development, the binary number system allowed the computer to have the electricity either on or off, a zero or a one in the different column, which allowed you to add massive numbers in an instant. The electricity is either on or it is off. The ocean is either cold or warm. The reason this brought back Columbia memories is because we start in the fall and certainly in our freshman year it was cold in September, and got colder in October. We pretty much spent our freshman year in the fall and in the winter. We really only had one season where the temperature improved, as I didn't go to school in the summer session. So it was that moment when spring arrived, that single season that we were at school where that on-off switch flipped. I really could remember the moment where I put away the winter jacket and could not wait to run in shorts and a T-shirt with my Mama Joy's roast beef hero sandwich between my legs, to sit on the Low Steps looking at the Sundial, or as we all remember, the place where the Sundial used to be, because the sphere had been missing for decades. (Only Columbia would still call it the Sundial when all we were looking at was the base of the sphere where it had lived.) I digress …

"But all these years later that day, that moment when the cold of fall and winter turned off and spring arrived is a memory that will always stay with me, as the sunshine heated your skin as you sat on the Steps with your head tilted back. How great it was to people-watch and spend just a few moments looking up at that blue sky with the sun beaming on your face, only to have that orgasmic moment interrupted by Sam Steinberg selling 'Hoishey' bars.

"A lot of years have passed since those four years at Columbia. Most of my memories are of the cutthroat torture chamber that being a pre-med was all about, but the few joyous recollections relate to that climate change when winter became spring (and the first bite of that perfect roast beef hero sandwich).

"Do you remember spring and the Low Steps?

"Roar lion roar!"

1980

Michael C. Brown
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

We better stop, hey, what's that sound? / Everybody look what's going down / Stop, hey, what's that sound? / Everybody look what's going down / Stop, now, what's that sound? / Everybody look what's going down / Stop, children, what's that sound? / Everybody look what's going down

— *Buffalo Springfield*

The fall is a wonderful season, especially in the northeast. Leaves changing, crisp cool breezes and football season! But first, let me congratulate baseball Coach Brett Boretti on a magical season: Ivy League coach of the year to go along with the Ivy League baseball title, 19-game winning streak and two wins in the regional NCAA tournament. We are really proud of the team's effort and success!

We spoke with football Coach Al Bagnoli at the annual football golf outing (after a two-year hiatus) and were impressed with the progress of the team. Coming off a solid season with returning players, we expect another exciting season.

Congratulation to Clodette and **A.J. Sabatelle** on the marriage of their daughter Amanda. We had a great time in New Jersey and were glad to see teammates in attendance.

I spent some time with **Greg "Doc" Marposon**, hoops legend and all-around great guy. Greg works at DTCC on market and liquidity risk management and continues to channel his inner Achilles!

Stay healthy, my friends, and drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

1981

Dan Albohn, Kevin Costa and Rich Gentile
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A Dean Campbell Caper, The Hasidic Rabbi Who Loved Punk and Jazz, and More!

A.J. Bosco writes: "After months of lockdown Zoom chats graciously organized by **Tom Leder**, it was great to finally be together in person with classmates. **John DeNatale** booked the trip for our 7 Carman group, and later that summer, **Glenn Smith** invited us to his house on Long Beach Island. In December, we got together at Frankie and Johnnie's Steakhouse in Manhattan."

See the nearby photo!

Ed Kelly's news: "I was recently ordained a permanent deacon in the Catholic Diocese of South Carolina. It was a long process: first, years ignoring the inner voice calling me to serve, then, six years of training and schooling (including philosophy — thanks, CC!).

"The timing was right, too (perhaps I should now say 'Providential'), for, just as I was ready to be ordained, a new chief information officer came in at Wells Fargo who wanted his own team. The bank made me an offer I couldn't refuse, and since then I have loved my new role. Classmates remembering my dissolute youth might be surprised at my new position. However, I have always possessed strong faith, which has strengthened over time. While priests may not marry, the church allows married deacons with four children, like me."

Ed, Jason Zweig '82 and Nick Morrow '82 all knew **Ken Colbert** well in college but lost touch with him afterward. They were saddened to learn, only recently, of his passing in 2001. Ken came from Xenia, Ohio, where his family had resided for several generations. After college Ken worked in the Washington, D.C., office of local congressman Clarence Brown Jr. (R-Ohio) and for Ford in Memphis. Jason remembers Ken as an ardent supporter of social justice who encouraged equal opportunities for people of color. Ken's ideals live on in a scholarship started by his sister, Katharine Colbert Krack. It is awarded to a Black or multiracial senior at Xenia H.S. in Xenia, Ohio, who plans to pursue a college degree.

At Columbia, Ken was a quiet, laid-back guy with a keen sense of humor. Ken and Ed lived on 10 Livingston sophomore year. The 10th floors of Hartley, Livingston (now Wallach) and Furnald had only 16 rooms and were generally loosely supervised by the RA downstairs. Ed recalls, "The lack of supervision was to our advantage. On warm evenings, Ken and I would sometimes climb out onto the mansard roof and shoot bottle rockets into the open windows of Butler Library."

A group of CC'81 classmates enjoyed a boat trip on the Hudson River on July 9. Left to right: Greg Staples, A.J. Bosco, Jesse Davis, Stuart Christie, Tom Leder and John DeNatale.

Another of Ed's stories illustrates Ken's comedic skills. "One day, I got a letter from the residence hall dean, Roberta Campbell TC'69, stating that my African Grey Parrot was a health hazard and that it must be evicted. Ken advised me to confront the situation head-on and see the dean immediately. All puffed up with righteous indignation, I marched into her office and demanded to know why she wouldn't let me keep my parrot. Dean Campbell was initially dumbfounded and then extremely amused. The letter was a fake! One of our mutual friends purloined stationery with the dean's letterhead and falsified the eviction notice. Stifling laughter, Dean Campbell assured me the bird could stay. Fuming, I returned to Livingston and found Ken and the gang laughing uproariously: I had fallen for their brilliant ruse. I couldn't help but laugh at myself. Ken had been recruited to ensure I did not talk myself out of seeing Dean Campbell, and played his role perfectly."

Nick adds a final Livingston prank: "We taught Merlin the parrot every curse word possible to offend Ed's mother. And the parrot is alive and cursing today!"

Our class also lost **Ira Berkowitz.** He died on August 24, 2021, while on a Hasidic pilgrimage in Ukraine. **Kenny Young** remembers: "Ira and I bonded in summer 1979 at the Central Park Ramones concert. He was a wonderful, complicated, endlessly entertaining guy.

"I think his upbringing on Long Island could be described as secular Orthodox. He attended a high school yeshiva, but my impression was that while religion was important, it didn't completely dominate the students' lives. The kids were worldly and interested in the same cultural things as kids everywhere.

"In college, Ira seemed fascinated by nearly every subject: literature and art, zoology and astronomy, philosophy and morality. His musical taste was profoundly eclectic, from Prokofiev to Zappa, from punk/new wave to bebop.

"He was extremely funny, but more than that, he was a student of comedy. I am sure he considered doing stand-up. And he was a talented writer, too." Years later, Ira wrote *A Wolf in the Soul,* probably the world's only novel about a Jewish werewolf. Kenny says: "Ira was always interested in wolves. He thought they were generally misunderstood."

Ira combined his sense of humor and love of rock 'n' roll in two college bands. He and Kenny appeared at a Plimpton cabaret (produced by **Brian Gygi**) as a genre-bending duo, The Nice Pistols. They played a folk medley of Ramones songs, followed by a punk version of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young's "Teach Your Children."

And then there were the Grubbles. In our time, a "grub" was an epithet reserved for someone who studied obsessively. The Grubbles dressed in nerdy clothing and sang parodies with geeky lyrics, including "Happiness is a 4.0" (based on The Beatles' "Happiness Is a Warm Gun"); "Smith-Corona" (based on the 1979 hit "My Sharona" … post '80s grads: Smith-Coronas were typewriters); and most spectacularly, "God Save the Dean" (based on the Sex Pistols' "God Save the Queen"). Ira (band name: "P Chem") sang lead on the last, wearing a leather jacket over his dweeby attire, and doing his best nerd-meets-Johnny-Rotten impression. Other Grubbles included Ed Harstead SEAS'80, SEAS'87 ("Diff EQ"); Rich Balekdjian '80, BUS'85 ("Orgo"); and David Hudson Irvine SEAS'80.

"God Save the Dean" lyrics are available online; for more info, see THE 300, at the end of the column.

Historical gloss: The big campus topic in 1980 was whether the College would go coeducational on its own or merge with Barnard. The "dean" in the song is Barnard president Jacquelyn Mattfeld, who was dismissed by Barnard's Board of Trustees later that year. (Reportedly, the parody had no influence on their decision.) Rich notes that the song's prognostications about Barnard were way off, as it is now America's most selective all-women's college.

Decades later, Ira became a rabbi, moved to Israel with his family and joined a Hasidic religious community. Kenny reports, "Ira still loved hearing from his old friends, and his sense of humor remained the same. He even kept up with the latest news about The Eggplants (**Kenny Young**'s band, which played at our 25th reunion; they continue to perform). When cool stuff happens for the band, I still want to share it with Ira and Eric Hansen '84, but all I can do is look up into the cosmos and hope that somehow they know."

Wherever Ken and Ira are, they left us too soon, and we miss them.

See this issue's "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct, for more on Ira.

For more news, see the online version of this column, which ends with THE 300, an additional 300 words: bit.ly/81CCTF22.

1982

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Greetings, gentlemen. Well, unfortunately, no one had time to send in a note this period. I was planning to attend Reunion 2022 but because my wife and I were in the middle of relocating to Boston from Denver I was unable to attend. If anyone has notes or photos from the event, please send them along. I'm sure we'd all love to see them! See your notes to me, but send photos of 750 kb or larger directly to *CCT* through the photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

STEPHEN REIS

The first Columbia Pride LGBTQ alumni event in Southern California was held on May 15 at the Beverly Hills home of Paul D. Lerner '83 and Stephen Reis. Among those attending were, left to right, Daniel Mitura '09, Lerner, Daniel Armstrong '84 and Dante Alencastre '83.

1983

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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My son and I attended several CU baseball games at Robertson Field at Satow Stadium in what was arguably the best season in Columbia's history. After a 19-game winning streak and taking the Ivy title, Columbia lost in the Regional finals to powerhouse Virginia Tech.

Friend and Huntington historian **Rob Hughes** gets a shoutout for helping me with a legal referral and advice regarding a property we purchased in Suffolk.

PJ Pesce: "I'm writing from sodden Vancouver, B.C., where I continue slaving in the television entertainment salt mines, directing episodic television, although I make my home in Los Angeles.

"I keep in touch with **Gideon Besson, Simon Black, Darius Sollohub, Michael Calabrese** and David Korish '84 (né Rosenberg).

"Simon's son Archie is one of my son Paolo's best friends, and that is one of my greatest pleasures.

"Many years ago, walking down Broadway with Simon, possibly inebriated, I began a long comedic prognostication of our future, and foretold how one day we would marry wonderful women who would love us, and would give us strong, healthy sons, who would become great pals and carry on our legacies.

"And whaddaya know, it all came to pass.

"Paolo and Archie were born within five months of each other, have grown up together and now play music together.

"Life is funny."

Barry W. Rashkover: "I enjoy being a partner at Sidley Austin defending fund advisors, broker-dealers and public companies in government investigations. My son, Teddy, graduated from Cornell with a B.S. in engineering and my daughter, Nicole, completed her freshman year at Haverford. I keep in touch with **Derek Santiago,** Amy Waring Stevens BC'82 and Michele Menzies-Abrash BC'83. I recently married Saima Ahmed, a lawyer and senior official at the NYSE."

Paul D. Lerner: "The first Columbia Pride LGBTQ alumni event in Southern California was held on May 15 at the Beverly Hills home of Paul D. Lerner and Stephen Reis. Alumni from a range of classes and schools enjoyed the gathering on a beautiful spring day. See the nearby photo!"

Jon Ross: "Since moving back to New York from Los Angeles a few years ago, I have been able to get together with many of my old friends from Columbia. I ride bikes in Central Park with **Bob Kahn,** who lives on the Upper West Side, and I meet **Bob Gamiel** at The Hungarian Pastry Shop when he is in from Florida. **Gardner Semet** and I recently enjoyed a delicious vegan Korean meal at Franchia Vegan Cafe on Park Avenue. And **Roy Pomerantz** and I have a regular tennis game on Sunday mornings.

"As a base of operations for me and my nonprofit, MicroAid International — which rebuilds permanent houses for disaster survivors around the world — New York City is great. While I oversee our ongoing projects in Nepal, and between my own travels to the field, I've been enjoying the city for all the culture and other opportunities that exist here. It's also a good place to do fundraising (many CU alumni are donors; thank you) and **John Bonomi** recently joined the MicroAid Board of Directors. Last year, I was in Mexico for five months building a house for an earthquake-survivor family, and two years before that I revisited Nepal to meet all the families we have helped over the last five years. It was such an honor to be given presents of fruit and flowers and blessings."

Langham Gleason '84: "I celebrated **Walter Roberts'** first heavenly birthday with a Zoom call and a Scotch with his best friend from high school, Joe Luther."

Carl Faller: "In December 2021 I came across a review in *The Wall Street Journal* of a title that caught my eye. *Around the World in 80 Books,* by David Damrosch.

"On the reasonable assumption given our age I presumed this is the last professor I has a class with who is still publishing books, and given the content I decided to purchase a few copies.

"While Professor Damrosch did depart Morningside Heights for Cambridge, he certainly spent a significant part of his early career at Columbia. In fall 1980, the course taken was a survey of 19th-century British literature. I hope you enjoy and/or feel free to pass along, given the Columbia connection."

Carl, I'm thoroughly enjoying the book. Thanks!

Carl continued: "For reasons mostly of sentimentality, I ventured on a winter morning to a memorabilia sports card show that has been occurring on a regular basis in Columbus, Ohio, at least since my kids were young. Of course, it came to my attention from a printed advertisement in a newspaper delivered to my house.

"Given your appreciation of New York and all things Columbia, and the noted interests of your son, enclosed [for Roy] are a few cards to enjoy. With the new baseball season finally read *The Boys of Summer* by Roger Kahn and suggest it to everyone given the observations of growing up in Brooklyn, reporting on baseball and following up with the retired 'heroes' after retirement."

Carl, my 14-year-old is a huge card collector. He loved the one you sent of Columbia basketball great Jim McMillian '70.

And Carl added: "As for updates, grateful to share the following in 2022. Still reside in the historic neighborhood of German Village of Columbus. With the May 2022 college graduation of my twin sons from Case Western Reserve University and Denison University my wife, Mary, and I will truly be empty nesters. Looking forward to spending more time in NYC in the years to come. Spending significant time as a board member and volunteer with a housing mobility organization move to prosper focusing on providing higher resourced opportunities combined with life coaching to address generational poverty. Still trying to become a better tennis player and skier when the opportunities arise."

Love to all! Everywhere! Jerry Sherwin '55, we love you, and will never forget you.

1984

Dennis Klainberg
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Mike Sauerman and his husband, Tim Mercado, have left Brooklyn Heights, where they spent the last decade, and are now residents of Santa Fe, N.M. Both fell in love with the Southwest desert during the last 15 or so years and decided to make the move proactively while both are still working. Look Mike up if you're in the area (mike.n.sauerman@gmail.com).

Daniel Cohen: "I started pastoring a church, for the first time, in January. I had a six-month contract to start with the Congregational Church of Burlington, Conn. They voted to keep me on for another year, with the possibility of making me permanent sometime after that. It has been a real blessing, and the people are wonderful! I love what I'm doing and am still giving psychotherapy to individuals and couples, as well."

Ben Pushner is proud to announce that his nephew, Adam Pushner '26, of Fairfield, Conn., started at the College this fall.

Paul Schwarzbaum: "Columbia arranged for the Classes of 2020 and 2021 to return to Morningside Heights on May 19 to have the graduation experience that Covid-19 denied them. I was accordingly thrilled to be back on campus to attend my son Ezra '20's belated graduation. His graduation ceremony in 2020 was a surreal Zoom dial-in from our home and a thoroughly disappointing experience for all. It was great that he could walk with his friends and that our family could share in the festivities."

Adam Van Doren GSAPP'89: "I recently published a book, *In the Founders' Footsteps: Landmarks of the American Revolution,* with a preface by historian Nathaniel Philbrick. The book, awarded the 2022 Distinguished Book Award from the Society of Colonial Wars, includes my essays — and paintings — of 30 historic sites associated with the Revolution, including the house museum of Alexander Hamilton CC 1778. Otherwise, I am in my 10th year teaching at Yale College and continue to enjoy the experience, especially as my course has returned to in-person."

Thank you, Adam, for your wonderful illustrations of Low Library featured in the Spring/Summer 2022 issue of *CCT.*

Dennis Klainberg: "Our youngest daughter, Sydney Klainberg, graduated with a master's in school psychology from Penn State, and is now working on a Ph.D. Our oldest daughter, Emma Klainberg, an academic advisor and student services support specialist at George Mason University's Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution, announced her engagement to Daylen Orlick, who also works at GMU, as assistant director for family programs, and is working toward an Ed.D. in higher education at The George Washington University. The wedding is set for (we hope a post–Covid-19) August 2023.

Many thanks to Richard Simonds '87 for memorializing **Eric Hansen** in this poem:

35th Columbia Reunion
In memory of Eric Hansen '84

Hallowed columns and red brick,
where has the magic gone?
Once, there was love, now,
a quiet, subdued acceptance
of an old forgotten friend,
vaguest memories drifting off
in sentimentality and fatigue.

Demosthenes still on the
side of Butler Library, a
mystery how you got there,
me too, a mystery, why? This
smelting pot of gold and olive leaves
where sprung this consciousness
of sorts. Hamilton and Jefferson,
bronze sentinels stand ever watchful,
but evermore the memories
from behind the heavy doors,
rooms of modern and ancient lit,
music, art, an opening, a closing,

but was it really you? Or was it me,
my own mysterious travels down
paths which you had started,
or warned me not to go,

and how much was my classmates:
Reunion! The stories! We reminisce,
the Glee Club party where someone
ran around naked, we were kicked out,

and returning from a concert,
singing on the Sundial —
looking up the magnificent steps,
leading to the library-temple
at the top of Morningside Heights.

1985

Jonathan White
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Thank you, as always, for writing in. This report features several updates from our legal and medical contingent.

From our attorneys, **David Zapolsky**'s great news this year is that "my son, Ian Zapolsky '15, married Sophie Mann '15 on June 25 in Upstate New York. The happy couple lives in San Francisco, where Ian is head of partner engineering at Check, a fintech startup, and Sophie works in private equity operations at KKR & Co. We're obviously thrilled, and you can look forward to pictures on social media.

"Meanwhile we officially became empty nesters last fall when we dropped off my bonus son, Sam Turshman, to begin his freshman year at Santa Clara University. We haven't figured out what a 'next chapter' should look like, so I continue to enjoy working with my incredible legal team at Amazon as senior VP and general counsel, coming up on my 10th anniversary in the role, and my wife, Lynn, juggles a variety of nonprofit and environmental and voting rights advocacy projects. I started teaching last winter — a technology law and public policy seminar at UW Law School that I've been noodling on for several years. While I made all the rookie teaching mistakes, I also found that I enjoyed it very much, so I'm going to do it again this fall, this time at UC Berkeley School of Law so I can have a built-in excuse to visit our Bay Area kids."

In March, **Greg Kinoian** joined the law firm of Genova Burns (main office in Newark, N.J.) as counsel in the firm's Bankruptcy, Reorganization and Creditors' Rights Group (gkinoian@genovaburns.com). "We are local counsel for the Official Committee of Talc Claimants in the Chapter 11 case of LTL Management, a subsidiary created by Johnson & Johnson to deal with the company's liabilities arising from its talc products. In May 2022, my younger daughter, Natalie, graduated magna cum laude from The University of Scranton, majoring in counseling and human services (with minors in psychology and studio art and a concentration in women's studies) in the university's Panuska College of Professional Studies. In September, she will enter NYU's Silver School of Social Work for an M.S.W. In July, my older daughter, Melissa, will have been an EMT for the Emergency Medical Services of Paramus, N.J., for three years; she recently took the exam for paramedic certification."

Andrew Hayes LAW'89 and his wife, Monica SIPA '91, had the good fortune to reunite with **Dan Poliak** LAW'89 during a vacation in Dan's hometown of Seattle. "Dan remains the Host with the Most on the West Coast," Andrew says.

And now from the doctors. Dr. **Ernesto Carames** had multiple graduations this year; Chloë Carames PS'22 graduated in May with a master's in occupational therapy, staying for her doctorate at Columbia. Kenan Carames was to graduate summa cum laude this past August from Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering at the University of Florida, continuing on to UC Berkeley to pursue a master's in engineering. Ernesto is transitioning from the University of Florida College of Medicine, clinical internal medicine adjunct prof, to Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine, as well as private practice.

Richard Ahn went on to medical school at the University of Texas-Galveston and then residency at UCLA. "For 27 years, I have been in private neurology practice in Dallas. Together with my wife, Dana, and twins, Elizabeth '25 and Katherine, we have made it back to Morningside Heights a few times. We usually meet up with **Rob Ripin**, who is senior partner at Hogan Lovells Law. We always seek good Ethiopian food in the neighborhood whenever we are together.

"Last summer I was back on campus moving Ellie into Furnald. It was like déjà vu, with Furnald, in 2021, being the most desirable dorm, and Carman and John Jay being on the other end of the spectrum. At least, that was how I remember it in the '80s. Ellie's Lit Hum classes last year were sometimes held at The Hungarian Pastry Shop. She even sat in on another class taught by our former dean, Robert Pollack '61. I also moved Katherine into her dorm at NYU last summer at the same time. And just like old times, East Village was the more interesting and fun campus."

For those of you who missed it, congrats to **Tom Cornacchia**, who was awarded an Alumni Medal at Commencement on May 18.

Please stay in touch and stay well!

1986

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Alexander Arguelles wrote in for the first time. Polyglot doesn't seem sufficient to describe him. He's fluent in five languages, semi-fluent in seven more and able to read really well in four additional ones. He writes: "While teaching internationally as part of my polyglot quest to learn as many languages as possible, I ended up in South Korea, where I met my beautiful wife, Hyunkyung. We have been married for 20 years and have two sons: Ardaschir '24 (19), who is double majoring in classics and East Asian studies, and Avaldamar '26 (17), who took up residence in Morningside Heights this fall and plans to study physics and philosophy.

"Since living in Korea, our family has moved several times. I have held professorships in Lebanon, Singapore and Dubai, and now call Minnesota home. Throughout my career, I have enjoyed teaching college students, but have also wanted to work with adult learners interested in continuing Socratic dialogue and conversation, and in honing their abilities to read and discuss literature in foreign languages that they might have acquired in high school or college and since forgotten. I am happy to report that out of the Covid-19 Zoom experience, my virtual academy was born: I am living out my lifelong dream by offering reading and discussion circles in French, German and Spanish literature; conversational Latin; medieval languages; and Great Books seminars (using both the *Great Books of the Western World* and the *Sacred Books of the East*). So far, I work with an incredible group of learners — symphony conductors, retired professors from MIT, graduate students and medical doctors, from their 20s into their 70s, and from all over the world: the United States and Canada, Britain and Europe, India and East Asia. As an educator, I feel that I am finally truly giving back to others from the education we shared at Columbia 1982–86. Thank you, alma mater!"

Warwick Daw '86's daughter Marguerite Daw '16 and her fiancé, Jonathan Wong SEAS'15, had a small handfasting ceremony (a formal engagement party in which vows were exchanged, but no legal paperwork was done) in Connecticut on the eighth anniversary of their first date. Daw and Marguerite's mother, Christina Daw, flank the couple.

Congratulations to **Warwick Daw**: "It's not exactly my own news, but my daughter, Marguerite '16, and her fiancé, Jonathan Wong SEAS'15, had a small, family-only handfasting ceremony at my parents' house in Connecticut (a formal engagement party in which vows were exchanged, but no legal paperwork was done). They met playing Ultimate at Columbia and have been together since — the ceremony was on the eighth anniversary of their first date. For the ceremony, Marguerite wore my mom's wedding dress."

See the nearby photo.

Congrats as well to **Steven Klotz**: "Proud to announce I attended two graduations: for my son, Daniel, who completed a double major in mathematical economics and Russian, from the University of Richmond, and has settled in as a consultant on Wall Street; and for my daughter, Alyxandra, from GW Law. She is headed to Ropes and Gray after the bar exam."

Congrats to **Keith Farrell**: His son, Emilio, will attend Stanford, Class of 2026.

An update from **Mark Goldstein**, in Thousand Oaks, Calif.: "Mark recently achieved two milestones. He is a partner at SoCal IP Law Group, which has been providing intellectual property services for 20 years, and he celebrated 25 years of marriage to Julie. Their older child, Shira, recently graduated from Moorpark College and is heading to Cal State Northridge to pursue a degree in elementary education, while their younger child, Rhyn, is heading to The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Wash., to explore environmental science this fall."

1987

Sarah A. Kass
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Hoping to hear from some more folks who attended our 35th reunion, held June 9–12, but **Lee Ilan** did send the following: "My main takeaway from reunion is how easygoing and understanding are the members of our class. By this point, we've all had our ups and downs, and the conversations were full of honesty and compassion, as well as some nostalgia and lots of laughs. I look forward to seeing many more of us at the next gathering."

Unfortunately, I was not able to attend, but I did get to spend a little time with my dear friend **Cathy Webster** bright and early on the Thursday morning before reunion (and I had a ridiculous workload). It was such a blessing to have that time, brief as it was, to drink coffee and catch up a bit. Looking forward to many more!

1988

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Development Contact
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Eric Fusfield
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Who says spring break in Florida is just for current college students? According to **Steve Silverstein,** "Every year or two, with a break for Covid-19, a group of CC'88 guys get together in a warm location to catch up and make fun of each other; we call this Lionfest. In April, we met in Miami Beach. Almost all of us were residents of Carman 4 our freshman year."

Eve Makoff GSAS'89, part of the CC'88 medical brain trust, wrote, "I am the regional medical director for the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly at AltaMed. This is a government program for low-income seniors. I am also completing the Columbia narrative medicine certificate program and planned to start a master's in narrative medicine at Keck Medicine of USC in August. The discovery of the field of narrative medicine has allowed me to combine my humanities interests and writing with my love of medicine. I also love spending time with my (non-medical) husband, Steve, and watching our combined seven children grow up."

Speaking of physicians, **John McHugh** is "still in Southern California and I hope (finally) done renovating a historic property in downtown Los Angeles. I entered medical school 32 years ago naively wanting to focus on wellness, not illness. The last few years have been extremely gratifying, as I've found a community of wellness-oriented caregivers and was recently elected a lifetime Fellow of the American College of Lifestyle Medicine."

I haven't given an update about myself in a while, but I was recently appointed by the governor of Virginia to serve on his Commission to Combat Anti-Semitism. We are due to submit recommendations to him by the end of the year and hope to make meaningful progress in addressing this intractable social illness. More recently, I have been ordained as a rabbi after completing an intensive mid-career program at the Jewish Spiritual Leaders Institute. I'm the third floormate from the Carman mezzanine to reach this milestone, so I can easily credit our frequent all-night freshman bull sessions on religion, which we dubbed the 5:30 Club. (We were the wild floor.)

Keep the updates coming! Classmates look forward to hearing from you. Send news to me by email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

1989

Emily Miles Terry
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Our Winter 2021–22 column, written by **Erik Price,** started with a nostalgic moment that brought me back to the late '80s, when everything we did felt important and somehow meaningful. And a lot of time it was. Taking a quick scan of a *Spectator* from 1989 you can quickly find classmates nestled there among stories of "European style pastry shop opens its doors on Broadway," "Security guards nab gym thieves with their hands full" and an article about **Tom Kamber**'s attempt to get students to reconsider single-sex fraternities, "Coed fraternity proposal prompts shouting match." Tom is founder and executive director of Older Adults Technology Services, the nation's largest technology program that helps older adults with technology.

Way back then *Spectator* was edited by **Andrea Miller**, who credits a course with Professor Anne McClintock as "shifting my lens to the issues that have become my life's work." Andrea's activism at Columbia and commitment to women's reproductive health has carried through and now, decades later, she is president of the National Institute for Reproductive Health and the NIRH Action Fund, and a nationally recognized expert in reproductive rights and women's health.

Also, in that formative and auspicious year of 1989, **Anne Pfizer** traveled to teach English to children in a rural village in Kenya. There Anne witnessed how substandard public heath can impact the lives of children and teens, and encountered the stark realities for women in low-resource countries. Anne then went on to work for Jhpiego, a nonprofit affiliate of The Johns Hopkins University, and now she leads the family planning team for USAID's MOMENTUM Country and Global Leadership project that provides women and girls in low- and middle-income countries around the world with accurate information about contraceptive choices and pregnancy prevention after childbirth. Anne recently received The Joan Shaw Herman Award for Distinguished Service from Concord Academy, from which she graduated in 1985.

Chandra Alexandre was also inspired and influenced by that time at Columbia, which "taught me fortitude beyond my wildest dreams." Today Chandra runs Marin County, Calif.'s largest nonprofit social services agency, leading racial equity work and economic justice efforts in California's least equitable county by race. "Our work is that of building grassroots movements for systems change while providing high-quality direct services," writes Chandra. "Levers for change include changing the narrative about poverty, shifting mindsets toward sustainability and building power with people often marginalized in traditional structures. Together, we are alleviating the causes and consequences of poverty aligned with the dreams of LBJ and MLK more than 50 years ago."

When I reached out for help with this column, many classmates hailed their friends and CC'89 comrades who have worked selflessly on behalf of others. **Jill Tannenbaum** wrote about **TuLynn Smylie,** who continues to do incredible work in Los Angeles for a nonprofit that provides services for the homeless, especially victims of domestic violence. **Rob Rooney** wrote on behalf of **John MacPhee** and his work in the mental health field through The JED Foundation. Rob is head of technology at Morgan Stanley and his connection to JED through John led to a Morgan Stanley Scholarship Fund to enable higher education institutions serving students from low-income and diverse backgrounds to participate in JED Campus, a program that helps colleges and universities develop and strengthen their approaches to supporting student mental health and preventing suicide.

Also, cheerleading for a classmate was **Mark Zoland,** who wrote to praise **Paul Radvany** LAW'92, who, in addition to being a law professor at Fordham, does pro bono litigation for people who have lost money in the financial world and can't afford legal help.

And others wrote in to praise those in public service such as **Maria Cabildo** in Los Angeles and **Julie Jacobs Menin,** a city councilor in New York.

Zach Margulis-Ohnuma remarks how he often thinks about Columbia as he journeys through New York, which is still his home and "a place I have never left for very long since arriving in 1985." Zach remembers marching with Columbia and Barnard people at the March for Women's Lives in 1986. Today, in addition to raising a happy family, Zach runs a three-lawyer law firm in Manhattan that handles criminal defense and civil rights litigation. A lot of his firm's work is on behalf of indigent people charged in multi-defendant cases in federal court.

Zach writes, "I am most proud of cases where I have been able to help people prove their innocence. I've had two fabulous results: Antonio Yarbough was exonerated after 22 years wrongfully convicted for an unimaginably horrible 1992 triple homicide — the victims were his own mother, little sister and a 12-year-old friend of his sister's. He discovered the bodies and called 911, and Brooklyn detectives turned around and framed him. DNA proved someone else did it; the real killer raped and murdered another person seven years later, while Antonio was rotting away in Attica. The other case is Felipe Rodriguez, who was exonerated in 2019 of the murder of a young mother in Queens after the key witness against him recanted and the District Attorney's office found exculpatory evidence that was never turned over to the defense. He had no connection to the victim."

I continue to be amazed by all these efforts.

And if anyone needs a little escapism (and who doesn't?), think about retreating to **Karen Segal Rookwood**'s warm and cozy bed and breakfast, the Featherbed Inn, in Vermont's Mad River Valley. With her husband, Mick, Karen bought an 1806 farmhouse last year. Karen and Mick now spend their mornings cooking on a 100-year-old six-burner stove for the guests visiting their inn, which is set on 20 acres. Karen earned a degree in social work and worked at an environmental consultancy company. Guests at the Featherbed Inn can enjoy skiing or snowshoeing, and the inn is a short drive from two cross country ski centers. But guests can seek adventure right on the property, which has about 50 miles of trails.

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
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Time to report on the exciting news from spring graduation season now that the next school year has begun (because that's just how deadline and production timelines work). **Radhi Majmudar** SEAS'91, BUS'06 and **Irfan Aziz** SEAS'90, BUS'97, SEAS'97 proudly announced that their son Kemal '22 graduated with a physics degree and began a Ph.D. in theoretical condensed matter physics in August. Radhi has three Columbia degrees, Irfan has four and Kemal's sister Miriam '24 is working on her first, in chemistry. Kemal is the first in his family to be enrolled in a degree program not at Columbia, but his parents love him anyway.

John Vincenti and **Judy Shampanier** each have a son who is a member of the Class of 2026. Any other classmates' children in this club?

Making her *CCT* debut is **Tanya Malott.** "I was a transfer student who came to Columbia from Wellesley College in 1987, after participating in a yearlong program run by the Architecture School, 'The Shape of Two Cities: New York/Paris.' I should have been in the Class of 1988. I did finally graduate in 1990, though I never went to a ceremony. I regret that. I spent the next several decades figuring out how to be a photographer. I worked in the fashion business before I found my calling in wedding photography. In 2021, I celebrated 30 years photographing weddings all over the world. When I began, in 1991, I met a British man whom I married in 1995 in a spectacular wedding I planned in a medieval castle overlooking Florence. We moved to Moscow for two years while he ran Citibank there and I made advertising and fashion photos for international magazines, fine art images for the Citibank offices and occasionally flew to the United States or Europe to shoot weddings.

"My life as a photographer has always mirrored my life as a woman, and while pregnant with my son Alex in 1997, on our next assignment in Puerto Rico, I began photographing families, typically on an annual basis, for clients whose weddings I had photographed.

"Alex's father and I divorced in 2001, and I moved to Sag Harbor, N.Y., for the next two decades. In the wake of my divorce and 9-11, I started a series of fine art photographs I called 'Watercolors.' I found the process of creating abstract images of water very healing as I played with the boundaries between painting and photography. The first person to buy one of these images then hired me to photograph his wedding, and later newborn child. The second was an architect who bought my entire show for an office he designed. I continued making images of nature and water during my two decades at the ocean and discovered a renewed interest in these images during the 2020 lockdowns when clients and friends suddenly wanted more beautiful backdrops for their Zoom calls.

"In 2005, while shooting a wedding in Lucca, Italy, I met a lovely couple who set me up on a blind date with a former CNN news executive. That date turned into 10 happy and interesting years and another big shift in my photography. I photographed Ted Turner and his UN board members on a trip to Israel, Palestine and Jordan. I photographed many world leaders. I traveled extensively in India, Cambodia, Vietnam, Morocco, Nicaragua, Hong Kong and more, always with my cameras. In 2015, I spent a year photographing Malala Yousafzai as she traveled to the Jordan/Syrian border during a refugee crossing, visited various schools in Jordan and later Kenya, and received the Nobel Peace Prize that December in Oslo. Malala chose my image for her official Nobel portrait, and my photos were used for a major museum exhibit in Oslo (with Lynsey Addario's photos of her co-laureate), plus several of her books, her documentary film poster, the entire Malala Fund website and endless amounts of press. Malala changed my life for none of the reasons I expected. Seeing a father my age so supportive of his child (my son's age) moved me to tears. I saw my photography differently after working with her, as a much more collaborative and intuitive process. She wanted to learn about photography, and I realized I had a lot to teach. She renewed my faith in the difference one person can make, and I turned my focus to more spiritual teachers, leaders and healers with the intention of creating a book about them. That has since shifted into a book about photography, life and seeing that I hope to finish this year.

RABBI JONATHAN PERLMAN

Los Angeles mayor Eric Garcetti '92 greeted Beth Kissileff '90 on July 11 at the White House's celebration of the passing of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.

"In a final twist I never saw coming, my son and I have now worked together five or six times, beginning in 2020 when we photographed a small wedding for the daughter of one of my former wedding clients. In May, Alex graduated from Northeastern University in a beautiful ceremony in Fenway Park. He asked me to make a series of graduation photos with his friends, which we took to another level. They so perfectly captured the energy of this diverse group of enthusiastic graduates. I simply enjoyed celebrating with Alex the ceremony I had never celebrated for myself.

"Early this year, I sold my beloved home in Sag Harbor after 21 years, and moved to Hudson, N.Y., where I now live above my own commercial space that I hope to turn into the Perspectiva Gallery during the next few months. As the next chapter of my life unfolds, I expect a new direction in my photography as well."

More from **Lynn Murphy!** "I continue my work with people experiencing homelessness. Covid-19 was a weird phenomenon in the world of homelessness. In Marin County, we housed twice the number of people than we had pre-Covid: 12 people per month in permanent supportive housing with a 95 percent retention rate. In a county with a homeless population of around 1,100, that's pretty good. But families and mono-lingual Spanish speakers who did not have the benefit of eviction protections fell to the streets in much higher numbers.

"I continue to field calls from all over the world from family members looking for someone. Unbelievably, I often know where they are. I continue to hear the stories — daughters, sisters, sons and brothers who all had the world before them, and then something happened. One particularly heart-wrenching story still haunts me. A brilliant woman

DANA WU '91

Sisters Davina Wu '99 (left) and Dana Wu '91 at the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day on May 17.

who was at the top of her class and a stellar swimmer who seemed bound for success. She had it all — a Stanford swim recruit and a promising future. But wait, a psychotic break then a drug addiction and petty crimes, and jail, then not taking meds, then dead under a freeway in Marin County, one of the wealthiest counties in the country. I remain in touch with her family because now we have a shared connection. And so it goes. But I continue the work to help those I can and support the families who live with the aftermath. This isn't the most uplifting report but sometimes we need to hear the realities of the work we are doing."

So true, Lynn.

1991

Heather E.G. Brownlie
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Heather Brownlie caught up with **Lee Feldshon** LAW'94 and his girlfriend, Barbi McCulloch, at Walt Disney World's EPCOT in Orlando this past spring! See a photo in our column online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

So glad to hear that classmates are having mini-reunions all over. Thanks to everyone who sent in notes for this column! Please keep your updates coming in. I look forward to hearing from everyone for the next column!

Mary Pattillo celebrated the graduation of her niece, Camille Jefferson '22, at Commencement on May 18, which also happened to be Mary's birthday! She writes: "Best birthday present ever!" See the nearby photo!

Chris Petrovic reported from Europe: "My family and I continue to enjoy our first taste of expat life here in Zug, Switzerland, and looked forward to welcoming many friends from the United States this past summer who were finally cashing in their long-delayed trips to Europe! Our children, daughter, Remy (14), and son, Zander (10), are enjoying this new chapter of their lives, which is giving them exposure to a more global perspective of life both through the many countries we have had the good fortune of visiting since our move here in December 2020, as well as the 60-plus nationalities that are represented at their school."

Josh Saltman LAW'94 met up at Shun Lee Palace in New York City with a number of John Jay seventh-floor classmates — **Matt Segal** SIPA'93, **Jen Carmona** PH'95, **Julia Goldman Rousakis** JRN'98 and **Dave Kaufman** GS'92, PS'97 — and writes: "It was great to see them! All are doing well and look great (my poor selfie skills notwithstanding)!" Take a look at the nearby photo!

Max Thomas writes: "I live in Amsterdam. My husband, Gabriel, and I moved here in 2019, pre–Covid-19, so we've gotten to know this magical city both without and with people (smile). If any other CU grads are in Amsterdam or nearby, drop me a line. It'd be great to get together.

"I'm a partner in an M&A advisory firm, Evalla Advisors, specializing in adtech, consumer tech, ecommerce, data analytics and digital marketing, and active in angel investing. I've been bitten by the wine enthusiast collecting bug rather strongly now that we live in Europe! And I continue to cook overly elaborate meals for anyone who cares to drop by.

"On a fun note of serendipity, I had a surprise call with **Satoshi Kitahama,** who lives in Tokyo, through a mutual business connection (in Amsterdam). Small world!

"Hope everyone is well!"

Debra Williams-Gualandi writes: "I am in the Netherlands at NHLStenden University of Applied Sciences in the international education department. Looking forward to CC alumni activities starting up again on this side of the pond and a visit to 116th soon!"

Dana Wu reports: "I had the pleasure of marching in the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day on May 17 with my sister, Davina Wu '99, as we celebrated my daughter Hannah Fenlon '22's graduation. We marched with the 1990 banner because **Laurel Daniels Abbruzzese** said 1991 was missing!" Check out the nearby photo!

Share your news by emailing me or by using the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Share your photos of 750 kb or larger that feature two or more CC alumni directly with *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo!

1992

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… and what a great 30th reunion it was, even though many of you have remained unacceptably youthful-looking.

It was great to be back on campus and even better to see so many of you CC'92ers and also friends from Columbia Engineering and Barnard. I won't list everyone here, lest I miss someone, but special thanks to **Peter Hatch** and **Hilary Hatch** for hosting me. And huge thanks to **Andrew J. Contiguglia** for putting in the time and effort needed to put together those amazing digital slideshows of our class through the years. (And a surreptitious wave to **Claire Shanley.** She knows why.)

I heard from **Jonathan Henick** SIPA'93, who might, Senate willing, soon be adding "plenipotentiary" to his business cards. Come on, you're envious. I know I am.

"Sorry I missed reunion," Jonathan wrote, "but I am excited to report that I am heading back overseas! I am the U.S. Consul General in Istanbul as of July."

But, President Biden has nominated Jonathan to be U.S. Ambassador to Uzbekistan ("where I did my first diplomatic assignment shortly after graduating from SIPA, in the mid-'90s"). Or, as the White House's May 20 release noted, "Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Uzbekistan." Jonathan hopes to

JOSH SALTMAN '91

CC'91 classmates (left to right) Josh Saltman, Matt Segal, Jen Carmona, Dave Kaufman and Julia Goldman Rousakis shared dinner at Shun Lee in NYC on May 19.

CATHY PATTILLO

Mary Pattillo '91 (right) and her niece, Camille Jefferson '22, celebrated Pattillo's birthday and Jefferson's graduation at Eataly in NYC on May 18.

reach Tashkent in late 2022 or early 2023. "I hope that Columbia friends passing through either country will look me up!" he said.

Farnaz Vossoughian sent in a nice post-reunion note with a photo that I cannot, unfortunately, add to the column. "Loved reconnecting with many at our 30th and especially seeing my Carman suitemates **Cathleen Price**, Maggie Miqueo '93 and **Nina Chaudry**," she wrote.

Richard Bernard wrote to say he "reconnected with a few 'young' friends" at reunion.

"Hilary Semel BC'92 is a lawyer in the Mayor's Office in NYC. Her hair is straight now, so I didn't recognize her at first. We are planning to grab lunch and properly catch up. It was great to see my 1206 first-year suitemate **Jared Clark** and his wife, although we cross paths from time to time. Also, reconnected with **Amanda McLean.** It turns out that she and her husband are my neighbors — literally within a couple of miles."

Richard also had some nice things to say about the panel "Class of 1992: How Columbia Changed My Life" — a definite highlight of reunion.

"Although their specific experiences were different from mine, their general experiences echoed my own. Columbia, despite its Ivy League status, and likely because it is in the City of New York, opens the eyes and ears of its students to real life. Others, because of socio-economic circumstances, might have differing perspectives," Richard wrote. "We need to hear everyone's perspective — everyone deserves to be validated and heard."

The event was also central to the note I got from **Wah Chen**: "I was enthralled."

The panel — I'm drawing on the official speakers list here — featured **Jared Clark**, partner, Phillips Nizer; **Lea Henry**, real estate and economic development strategist and community developer; **Dane Holmes**, chair, CEO and co-founder of Eskalera; **Jean-Luc Neptune**, CEO and co-founder, Suntra Modern Recovery; **Victoria Orlin**, self-employed; **Cathleen Price**, cooperating senior attorney, Equal Justice Initiative; **Eddie Rodriguez**, principal, Law Office of Edward Rodriguez; and **Claire Shanley**, producer, *The Gilded Age*, at HBO.

"Their individual reflections made me have a fresher, deeper perspective on different points of view and our shared time at college. We missed **Lydia Callaghan** but I look forward to hearing her at our 35th," Wah said.

She also praised our opening night reception host, **Sean Hecker**: a "gracious and charmingly dimpled host with an easy smile." Sean hosted us at his law firm in the Empire State Building.

And Wah hit a melancholy note, too. "While I loved seeing everyone who showed up at reunion, including **John Marciano** and our Senior Class President of Engineering **Yoshi Maruyama SEAS'92,** I really missed two classmates who have passed and were part of so many of my personal collegiate memories: **Leon Fan** and **Meredith Norton.** Leon, Mersey, I hope you two are sharing a laugh and a blueberry Pepperidge Farm turnover listening to Ray Charles' *Greatest Hits* in heaven."

What about some of the people who just didn't get to reunion? Note from Wah: "**Randa Zakhary, Frank Au, Sarah Wolman, Eric Garcetti:** You guys had better come next time! **Jill Tobia, Abby Black Elbaum, Rob Speyer:** Hi!"

I saw **Dan Snyder SEAS'92** at reunion, and he sent a wrap: "Highlights for me had to have been seeing my freshman-year McBain roommate **Amar Mehta SEAS'92** for the first time in 25-plus years, and reconnecting with fellow SF Bay Area '92 alums like **Amanda Schoenberg** and **Girish Narayan SEAS'92.**"

"We must meet more often here on the West Coast — my heirloom tomato harvest is only a month away and my wine cellar awaits! I have posted lots of great reunion photos on my Facebook page if people would like to connect with me there," Dan wrote.

As for the rest of you, please send life updates to olivier.knox@gmail.com or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. This column gets lonely with you and I don't want to start having to invent careers and family: "**J. Schwartz** uses hand and stage puppets to turn the complete works of Berthold Brecht into fun for the whole family!"

1993

REUNION 2023

JUNE 1–3

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Well, I threatened, pleaded and cajoled, and you answered. Boy, did you answer! We have an unprecedented outpouring of updates, several of you for *the very first time*! Take that, previous Class of '93 correspondents!

We're now less than a year from our 30-year reunion, but we'll talk more about that in the months to come. With so many updates and so little space, let's get right to it.

Amy Longo LAW'96 left the SEC's Division of Enforcement in March, after nine years with the agency. "I joined Ropes & Gray as the first litigation partner in the firm's new Los Angeles office, where I am focusing on SEC/white collar enforcement and securities class actions defense, and other commercial litigation." Also a partner at Ropes & Gray? Former class correspondent **Betsy Gomperz**! "It was great to reconnect with her," Amy says.

Amy lives in Pacific Palisades with her husband, Steve Pesce, and their boys, Leo (14) and Renzi (12). "I keep in touch with several classmates, including **Jennifer Sandman, Christina Kim, Judy Wong** LAW'97, **Troy Salsbury, Daniel Seda** and **Anna Levine,**" Amy writes.

Oliver Staley JRN'03 writes: "After six years as a reporter and editor at *Quartz*, this year I accepted a position as the senior business editor at the *Observer* (formerly the *New York Observer*), which is undergoing an exciting relaunch." Oliver lives in Tarrytown, N.Y., with his wife, Effie Phillips-Staley, a recently elected village trustee, and kids, Owen (15) and Marisol (12).

Hillel Parness LAW'95 reached out to celebrate his eighth anniversary of going out on his own with a litigation/intellectual property/entertainment law practice. "I continue to be very pleased with that decision, both in terms of the flexibility and opportunities it brings," Hillel writes. He's also been teaching intellectual property and internet law for 20 years as a member of the adjunct faculty at the Law School. Hillel is married to Amanda Rochwarger BC'94, and their sons Max and Brian are at Chicago and Northwestern, respectively. Their youngest, Eli, finished his freshman year at SAR H.S.

Fellow former CUMB member **Chris Wiggins** let me know that he has not one, but *two* books coming out in the next year about data science, one for data science practitioners and one for the general readers. The first, *Data Science in Context: Foundations, Challenges, Opportunities,* is coauthored with Alfred Spector, Peter Norvig and Columbia faculty member and executive VP for research Jeanette Wing. The second, *How Data Happened: A History from the Age of Reason to the Age of Algorithms,* is co-authored with Columbia faculty member Matt Jones. "Oh," Chris added, "I also remain chief data scientist at *The New York Times*, a role I've held since 2013."

Several old friends wrote, starting with **Molly Sellner Harris,** who checked in to let us know, "My downtown New York City kid is heading to the University of Vermont this fall," and Molly is looking forward to becoming an empty nester. She also said that, during Columbia graduation festivities this past spring, she ran into **Kristina Nye Weise** and **Arthur Weise,** who were there celebrating the graduation of their daughter, Emma '22 (they also have a son, Campbell '24). "Super cool. I also love seeing my fellow women soccer teammates at soccer alumni events and I am always impressed with their careers — **Sandra Johnson, Julia Davidson Hassan** (whose son is a CC'26) and more."

Rita Pietropinto-Kitt worked with the Columbia College Alumni Association to bring back the Classes of 2020 and 2021 for a May 19 in-person Graduation Celebration. "It was a very special moment for them," Rita said, "and I was asked by the dean to deliver the address, which was a tremendous honor. The classes were deeply grateful for the opportunity, and more than 1,400 alumni returned for the event."

First-timer **Jill Gottesman Rippon** PS'98 writes that she lives in Southern California, "a place I never thought I'd be, proud Bronxite and northeasterner that I am. But I'm not going to lie, it's very nice out here!" Jill has been married to Greg Rippon PS'99, PH'03 for 23 years. "We met at Columbia, where he was in medical school and I was in graduate school for occupational therapy." Their daughter, Haley, finished her first year at UCSD, and their son, Jackson, is now a junior in high school. "Greg is a VP and chief medical partner of neurology, ophthalmology and internal medicine at Genentech/Roche, and I am retired, affording me the opportunity to pursue several volunteer interests."

Three other first-timers wrote in with updates. **Jenny Tsang-Quinn** is a senior VP at Maimonides Health in Brooklyn. "My focus is on primary care, clinical quality and population health," she writes. Jenny is married to Vincent and they have three children, Emmy (7) and twins Kieran and Greyson (4). Jenny and her family live in the Five Towns on Long Island. She says she likes keeping up with College friends on social media, and is hoping to get to next year's reunion.

Bonnie Dwyer PS'97 and **Ian Carroll** PS'97 have long been married to each other and are physicians in the San Francisco Bay Area. "We are excited to announce CAMK2 Therapeutics Network to support the growing global community of individuals and families dealing with this ultra-rare, genetic disorder." Their daughter, Alexandra, was one of the first individuals in the world diagnosed with a CAMK2 disorder, in 2016, and was included in the first research paper, published a year later, documenting known cases of intellectual disabilities caused by CAMK2 mutations.

And the final first-timer, **Amy Ahn** SIPA'06, said that she had a blast participating in CC'92's 30th reunion this past June ("in anticipation of our 30th reunion!") and that her daughter Sara Chough '24 finished her sophomore year. Amy is the executive director of Vision Care USA, a global blindness prevention NGO.

Former correspondent and old pal **Thad Sheely** told me about **Pete Sluszka** debuting his 10-year-in-the-making stop-motion short, *Hardboiled*, at the Tribeca Film Festival as part of Whoopi Goldberg's curated collection of shorts. Selected from more than 7,200 submissions, *Hardboiled* won Goldberg over because she "laughed her ass off" at the 27-minute film of breakfast food hijinks spoofing the crime drama tropes. Dara Lynn Kubovy-Weiss '92 hosted a pre-premiere brunch with **Greg Lare, Doug Meehan** BUS'08, **Caroline Suh** GSAPP'97 and **Jennie Kim** (who also wrote in about the same event) all in attendance.

Way to go, Pete!

I had lunch with **Joseph Del Toro** last fall; bumped into **Betsy Gomperz** in Central Park; saw **Jennifer Hoffman** on the street in Westwood, near the UCLA campus; and spent a couple days with **Patti Lee** in Northern California. I also keep in touch with a fair number of you, and if you don't reach out with news for next issue, I'm gonna reveal some skeletons you all have in your closets.

Speaking of that: Our Class of 1993 Rachel Mintz Memorial Fund raised a grand total of ... $905 in the last fiscal year. *$905?* Come on, people! We can do better than this! Let's make it our mission to surpass $100K and award multiple scholarships in this, our reunion year! Read more about this in our column online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Have a great fall!

1994

Columbia College Today
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[Editor's note: *CCT* welcomes **Kathryn Hudacek Harlow** as the new class correspondent, effective with the Winter 2022–23 issue! Share your news and updates with her going forward at kathryn@columbiacollege1994.com or via the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.]

Several class members responded to our call for news!

Christian Bernard writes: "I reside in Miami, Fla., and I run a vegan food brand and food trailer, Eduble Chefs, found on Instagram, Facebook, TikTok and Twitter at @edublechefs. I started Eduble Chefs in 2014 as a marijuana edibles company, but we relaunched the idea in 2021 and expanded the idea to incorporate the entire dining experience, without the THC (for now). We are running an equity crowdfunding campaign so that we can expand the brand, bring products to market and enter into controlled agriculture growing our own leafy greens, herbs and microgreens."

Ocean MacAdams says: "Greetings from San Francisco. We moved here six years ago after 26 years in New York. My wife and I live in the Glen Park neighborhood with three kids and an emotionally complex pit bull. I don't think I will ever tire of the NorCal lifestyle and if I never live through another humid summer, I'll be thrilled. I'm at Amazon Music these days, working on a startup within the company, Amp (please download it!) We spend a lot of time in the Lake Tahoe area, where our kids are skiers and snowboarders. I don't get to see too many CC-ers these days, but I'm lucky to count Karl Cole-Frieman '92 and Wanda Cole-Frieman BC'94 as good friends who sometimes take pity on me and invite me to Warriors games, and I amazingly was able to grab coffee and acai with **Lola Rephann** in Costa Rica. I was there on a surfing trip, she was there getting her yoga and wellness retreat set up, and you should all go there and take her classes. Hit me up if you are going to be in the Bay."

Also sharing news is **Rebecca Moor** (née Donnenfeld), who lives in Brookline, Mass.: "**Marla Trammel** (née Abodeely), **Laurie Reid** (née Galluzzi) and I were happy to reunite recently in Boston to binge on oysters, wine and catching up." The three have tried to get together at least once a year in the Berkshires — a halfway point between Upstate New York (where Laurie works for the VA) and Boston (where Marla works for a pharmaceutical company and Becca teaches law). During the pandemic, they survived kids stuck at home, kids going to college and various medical dramas (including a family Covid-19 quarantine in Morocco that reminded Marla of reading *The Decameron* in Lit Hum). They hope to make it back to Morningside Heights soon to hit Cafe Pertutti (it must be still there, right?) and continue their tradition of eating, drinking and non-stop talking."

[Editor's note: Sorry, Cafe Pertutti is long gone!]

Chris Durand, who lives in Signal Mountain, Tenn., "recently had a book of poetry published, simply titled *Poems.* Many of them are spiritual."

News from **Anna Ivey,** who lives in Los Angeles: "Most days I'm busy with my startup, Inline Coach, which makes a digital tool to help students with the college applications. We had a great pilot year this past admissions cycle in seven school districts around the country, and this coming year we're going bigger. I also participated in a startup accelerator for Columbia alums, Project 2.8, which is part of the Columbia Venture Community. If you're in the venture space, I encourage you to get involved; it's been a great experience. We met virtually because <<gestures

PHOTOS BY ROSE KOB '96

CC'96 classmates catching up at Reunion 2022's #26isthenew25 event on the Darling Rooftop at the Park Lane Hotel on June 10 were (lefthand photo, left to right) Whitney Chiate (née Berkholtz), Justine Schiro, Leila Kazemi, Erica Bens (née Sulkowski) and Melissa Gajarsa, and (righthand photo, left to right), Britta Jacobson, Uchenna Acholonu, David Lee, Ana Salper and Hyun Bo "Bo" Sim.

everywhere>> but I hope to be able to make it to NYC for some in-person events soon. Our team is spread out between both coasts, and my travel has picked up again, almost like the Before Times."

Anne Kornblut shared that she and **Shahrzad Elghanayan** "both happened to be in Paris at the same time this past spring, and spent a lovely afternoon at Les Deux Magots catching up and reminiscing about the last time they'd been in Paris together, right after college. Anne is at Meta as VP of global curation and Shahrzad is at NBC News as a senior photo editor." Anne also saw **Eliza Lowen McGraw** and **Rebecca Weinberg Femia** during a weekend in Washington, D.C.

1995

Janet Lorin
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I hope this finds everyone well and their families Covid-19–free in the period that we will begin turning 50.

Thanks to the many classmates who have responded to my pleas for updates after I've noticed a LinkedIn post or a tweet, or in the case of **Anna Hemnes,** who gave me suggestions about Nashville when I was on a reporting trip there in 2021. (My apologies to Anna, my Carman 10 floormate, that I forgot to include this in a previous column.)

Anna has lived in Nashville for 16 years, working at Vanderbilt as a physician scientist in the Division of Allergy, Pulmonary, and Critical Care Medicine. Her research and clinical interest is in pulmonary vascular disease and right heart failure. She is married to Dr. Jacob Schwarz, whom she met in medical school at Johns Hopkins. They have three kids: twin girls (16) and a son (14). When they are not working, they are chasing the kids at swimming and hockey events!

Congrats to **Donna Phillips** (née Paoletti) on her new job, after 27 years in public education, in the classroom and as a central office curriculum and instruction leader. She is the VP and chief program officer for the Center for Civic Education. Prior, she was director of academic innovations for DC Public Schools and led the development of hybrid and virtual instruction through the pandemic, among other projects. Donna is leading the center's strategic plan in development, implementation and innovation of its national and international programs. "All education is civic education, and I am thrilled to lead this work full time," she says.

Donna earned a master's at Notre Dame and a Ph.D. at the University of Maryland. She lives outside of D.C. in Howard County, Md., with her kids, Tyler (16) and Alessia (12), and her husband, who play ice hockey.

"I don't play hockey, even though I can skate, but I compete in triathlons and run," Donna adds. "I've recently been in touch with **Alex Cortez,** who is a partner at Bellwether Education Partners."

Donna is surrounded by Columbia alumni as colleagues in her new position. "We talk about CU a lot!" she writes.

Matt Cascio also responded to my update request after I saw a LinkedIn post. He received an Edison Award for Innovation on behalf of the American Red Cross for a volunteer program he started, Code4Good, which gives developers an opportunity to contribute their engineering talents to the American Red Cross Mission.

Matt is working on his 10th year at the Red Cross after spending time in technology consulting and helping Rosetta Stone through its IPO in 2009. He lives in the beautiful hunting country of Northern Virginia with his wife of 17 years, daughter (11), three doodles and an adolescent Appaloosa mare.

Finally, I have some news myself. After 14 and a half years at Bloomberg News, I will return to Columbia, spending time again in the history department and at the Journalism School, where I earned a master's in 1996. I'm taking a sabbatical to be a Spencer Fellow at the Journalism School with three other reporters from across the United States. I'll examine the unequal financial history and educational outcomes of a set of public Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the South in the context of the wealthiest U.S. colleges. My time will span the 2022–23 academic year and then I'll be back at Bloomberg. When the program director called me this past spring to notify me that I had won the fellowship, she asked if I needed housing. I don't even need a MetroCard, as I will earn my steps walking from the Upper West Side. My husband, Scott, a critical care physician, is president of Mount Sinai's hospital in Brooklyn, where he and his staff continue to do heroic work in the pandemic. Our son, Ike (14), started high school this fall and we also have a daughter, Charlie (12).

Thanks for all the updates, and please keep consider sending in news as you all celebrate the big 5-0.

1996

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Greetings, classmates!

Thanks to the persistent grassroots organizing efforts of **Whitney Chiate** (née Berkholtz) and **Evan Malter,** and joined by others of us on the Reunion Committee including **Hussein Rashid, Rose Kob, Daria Ibn-Tamas, Liz Yuan, Uchenna Acholonu, Stefanie Lalley-Ardrey** and me, we successfully pulled off a "#26isthenew25" mini-reunion during the official Reunion 2022, held June 9–12.

It was great to see so many fellow CC'96ers in person after having to "reunite" virtually last year for our 25th reunion. We kicked it off at a cocktail party at the beautiful Darling Rooftop at the top of the

Park Lane Hotel on Central Park South, managed by Scott Sartiano '97 (but we all consider him to be an honorary '96er). In addition to the Reunion Committee members, in attendance were **Britta Jacobson, Tom Kitt, Jeremiah Crowell, Noah Cornman, Leila Kazemi, Melissa Gajarsa, Amanda Cox, Justine Schiro, Parag Gandhi, Julie Porter, Klancy Miller, Bernice Tsai, Brandon Kessler, David Lee, Hyun Bo "Bo" Sim, Jeanette Baik, Brendan Killackey** and **Jeff Mandel**. Everyone seemed well, healthy (iykyk), and happy to reunite. Enjoy a couple of pictures from our event, which are included nearby, courtesy of **Rose Kob**, who served as our resident photographer that evening. There are more in our column online (college.columbia.edu/cct)!

The reunion activities continued the following evening with a dinner in Low Library, thanks to an invitation from the Class of 1997, which was kind enough to allow us to have a CC'96 table smack in the center of the room. A loyal 10 of us showed up, and we had a blast. My favorite part was the abbreviated campus tour Uchenna and Evan took us on that evening, recreating their days as campus tour guides. For those of you who haven't been on campus in a long time, let me assure you — it still has that magical energy, especially at night.

I'll provide details on what everyone is doing in the next column because my pleas for notes have gone unanswered as of yet (you know who you are).

For now, I leave you with this:

> "It is essential to woman's equality with man that she be the decisionmaker, that her choice be controlling. If you impose restraints that impede her choice, you are disadvantaging her because of her sex."
>
> —*Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg LAW'59*

1997

Kerensa Harrell
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Dear classmates, I hope that you all enjoyed a fun-filled summer and that everyone is in good health as we head into fall. Our class had its big 25th-year reunion in June, so if you attended, please do send us your stories and photos! We would love to hear all about your experience.

It is my pleasure to present the following updates from our class.

Raji Kalra BUS'04 writes: "For the last four years I have been working for myself as a fractional CFO for nonprofits and purpose-driven startups and small- and medium-sized enterprises. I made this switch so I could pursue commercial, film and television acting. Since getting headshots, creating an acting résumé and putting myself out there, I've booked five commercials, one print ad, one industrial, one TV show and core/featured background on four shows including *Orange Is the New Black* and *New Amsterdam*. If you have Disney+ (and children 8–13), you can see me as a marine research scientist who is a jellyfish expert on the pilot episode of *The Big Fib*.

"But another career transition is in the works as I pivot back to full-time employment. I am starting a job as the Center for Reproductive Rights' first chief financial officer, overseeing finance, facilities and IT. I'm excited about the opportunity to join such an impressive organization during a time of historic growth and need. It will be strange being an employee somewhere again, but thankfully CRR is allowing me to continue to pursue my blossoming acting career on the side."

Anthony Lemaire writes: "I hope that everyone is doing well and is safe. I'm a cardiothoracic surgeon and am very grateful for my time at Columbia College. I went to our previous reunion and it was a wonderful experience to see how things have changed."

Joshua Schank GSAPP'04 writes: "I was unable to get to reunion but I do get together at least twice a year with some of my closest friends from CC. My latest news is that I left L.A. metro this year after six and a half years there as chief innovation officer and am now a managing principal at InfraStrategies, a small transportation consulting firm based in Southern California. I am also a senior fellow at the Institute of Transportation Studies at UCLA, and am teaching there as an adjunct in this fall. Since moving to Los Angeles I have become an avid hiker, learned to surf and became a vegan-yogi-Buddhist (OK, kidding about that last one)."

As for me, **Kerensa Harrell**, I was so sad to have missed our reunion. It was the first that I have missed since graduating. For this recent one, I had booked plane tickets well in advance for me and my 5-year-old daughter to fly to NYC from Florida, and we were totally planning to do so, like we did in 2017 when she was half a year old (she even made it into our 2017 class photo!). But after giving it much serious thought, I ultimately made the difficult decision to instead take her on a Caribbean vacation so that she could practice her French in Saint Martin, as she has been taking weekly private French lessons for six months with a fabulous French teacher (originally from Paris) whom I was lucky to find living in our neighborhood. But I definitely won't miss our 30th in 2027!

I'm still a full-time stay-at-home mom, although I will mostly likely resume my career once my daughter starts kindergarten this fall. This past spring I enjoyed watching her four dance recitals, and this past summer I enjoyed watching her indoor cheerleading and piano lessons, and seeing how excited she was to spend a couple of weeks traveling around the Caribbean on cruise ships. We live just one hour from Port Canaveral, so it's very easy for us to hop aboard ships to the Caribbean.

I wish you all a lovely autumn! If you attended our 25th reunion, please do write and let us know about your experience. And feel free to share your reunion photos for publication as long as they are 750 kb or larger and there are at least two College alumni included (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo). In honor of our 25th reunion, I will cue our fight song, "Roar, Lion, Roar," as I sign off now.

In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen.

John Dean Alfone '97 (left) and Jess Braun '04 had a networking lunch at China Kitchen in Austin, Texas, on July 12.

1998

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Happy fall, Class of 1998!

Scarla Pineda is a New York real estate agent with her own brokerage in Brooklyn and Long Island and lives in Dix Hills, N.Y. Last summer she volunteered to work on a Habitat for Humanity home for a family in Shirley, N.Y. The program was sponsored in conjunction with the Long Island Board of Realtors.

Janice Brown announced that she has added life coaching to her pain management medical practice, Better Health and Rehab, in Ocala, Fla. She welcomes anyone interested in managing their chronic pain to contact her for more information: janice@betterhealthandrehab.com. Janice's "pseudo twins" are now 11 and 7 (the sisters share a birthday!).

Ryan Purdy wrote with news of a career change. He finished his second year as a full-time student at Fordham Law and will graduate in 2023. "After 15 years as a managing editor in the magazine world, I took the next logical step and quit my job to go to law school. Next year I'll be the editor-in-chief of Fordham's *Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law* journal, so I guess I haven't fully quit editing. My wife and dog have been very patient with my clearly rational mid-life choices."

Congrats, Ryan!

And we have a baby announcement! **Vijay Prabhakar SEAS'98** and his wife, Michaela Pagel, a finance professor at the Business School, welcomed baby Jasmin in May 2021. Vijay, Michaela and Jasmin live near campus in Columbia faculty housing. Vijay looks forward to Jasmin being Class of 2042!

Send your updates to me by email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo!

1999

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Happy fall! I was so happy to receive the following updates from classmates; please keep them coming! Email me or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Allison Margolin shared that she published a book in August: "*Just Dope: A Leading Attorney's Personal Journey Inside the War on Drugs* is a memoir of my life and times growing up in the marijuana legalization movement, then finding my place in life and my trials and tribulations fighting the war on drugs."

Amanda Steinberg (née Birnbaum) will be the lead digital fundraiser for an upcoming Philadelphia mayoral campaign and is thrilled that she is "finally putting my urban studies degree to use!"

Romy Lerner LAW'02 recently became an immigration judge and is based in Miami with her husband and daughter. **Louise White** was one of the many in attendance at her virtual investiture ceremony.

Rebecca Sheir lives in western Massachusetts, where she and her husband, composer Eric Shimelonis, produce Circle Round: the award-winning children's storytelling podcast distributed by WBUR, Boston's NPR station. On July 5, Rebecca's first two Circle Round picture books, adapted from favorite episodes and featuring illustrations by acclaimed artists from around the world, were released. The third and fourth Circle Round books are expected to hit shelves this fall and then next spring.

Jen Maxfield JRN'00 has been a reporter and anchor for NBC-New York for nine years. This summer she released her first book, *More After the Break: A Reporter Returns to Ten Unforgettable News Stories*. "After covering thousands of news events over the last two decades, it was amazing to have the opportunity to return to people I had interviewed to see what happened after their names faded from the headlines," Jen told me. "The cycle of news stories is nonstop, but it doesn't mean reporters like me stop thinking about the people we have met along the way." [Editor's note: See "Columbia Forum," Spring/Summer 2022.]

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Andrew Ricci '00 (left) and Kraig Odabashian '00 on the summit of Colorado's Mount Sherman in July 2021.

CC'00 classmates (left to right) Thomas Russell Hanes, Andrew Ricci and Kraig Odabashian on the Mayflower Lake and Mohawk Lakes trail near Breckenridge, Colo., in July 2021.

Jen was on a national book tour this past summer, with a stop planned at the Columbia University bookstore for the fall, and credits her time writing for *Spectator* (she had a column called "The Max Factor") with inspiring her to pursue journalism as a career. In addition to writing and reporting, Jen and her husband, Scott Ostfeld '98, BUS'02, LAW'02, are parents to Trevor (15), Vivian (14) and Evelyn (11).

2000

Columbia College Today
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Happy fall, Class of 2000!

It was great to hear from **Andrew Ricci**, who updates us on what he did last summer: "Last July, **Kraig Odabashian, Thomas Russell** and I spent a week in Breckenridge to hike in the Rocky Mountains. We had wonderful weather and a fantastic time hiking and climbing many of the surrounding peaks and enjoying the inspirational scenery and wildlife all around.

"Tom then went to Denver to attend the Sigma Phi Epsilon biannual conclave. Kraig and I then climbed Mount Sherman, which is more than 14,000 ft. in elevation. On our way back home, Kraig and I met up with Tom again and with **Matthew Matlack** and Zariel Toolan SEAS'03 at the conclave in Denver before we all flew back to our respective homes."

Thanks, Andrew!

See the nearby photos!

Please take a moment to send us your latest news and happenings, and we'll share them in a future issue. Write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum for "Just Married!" as long as a member of the couple — should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2001

Jonathan Gordin
jrg53@columbia.edu

Hi everyone. I hope you had a fantastic summer!

Jennifer D. Cho was recently promoted to CEO of The Wing, a women-focused co-working firm. Jennifer joined The Wing as chief marketing officer in July 2021.

Jonathan Lemire has written his first book, released on July 26: *The Big Lie: Election Chaos, Political Opportunism, and the State of American Politics After 2020*. It traces the origins of President Trump's false claims of election fraud and how he hijacked the Republican Party and the conservative media with lies that would eventually fuel an insurrection at the U.S. Capitol. But it also looks at our politics after January 6, as the same lies have challenged President Biden's White House and been used as justification for an assault on voting rights across the nation.

I'm delighted to relay news that Mr. **Tom Felix** (né Hughes) has been confirmed as the principal of Oakland International H.S. starting the 2022–23 school year.

Tom has been deeply committed to serving Oakland youth and families for more than 20 years, first as a teacher, assistant principal and principal, and most recently as director of newcomer programs for Oakland Unified School District's English Language Learner and Multilingual Achievement Office.

Congrats to Tom!

Best wishes for a wonderful fall ... and don't forget to keep in touch with your Columbia classmates. Send me an email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2002

Sonia Hirdaramani
soniahird@gmail.com

Hi friends. **Genevieve Thornton, Scott Koonin** and I were thrilled to be the co-chairs for our 20-year reunion, held June 9–12.

Scott, we missed you so much, but will start our updates with yours: "After months of planning for our 20th reunion I tested positive for Covid-19 a few days prior and missed all the fun and festivities. Based on all the pictures I missed a memorable weekend! It is hard to believe we have been out of college for 20 years! I have stayed involved as an alumni volunteer and feel very connected with alma mater through alumni engagement and development efforts.

"My family moved to New Jersey five years ago, and we love the suburban life. My wife and I have three boys, 9, 7 and 5. We spend most of our time at sporting events and in the summer we live at the beach.

"We saw many Columbia alumni at **Sheldon Wong**'s wedding. In addition to celebrating Sheldon, we spent time with **Ken Lantigua, Eric Phillipps**, Drew Pyo '01, John Rowan '01 and Tamer Obied '01, among many others. While not the same as our 20th reunion, this was the next best thing. I hope to see many of you soon, and if not, we will all have the opportunity to attend our 25th!"

Genevieve writes: "After living in the West Village for 17 years, I moved to the Upper West Side last summer. My daughters (6.5) — identical twins! — in September began first grade at Marymount School of New York. While the pandemic has put a serious crimp in our travels and socializing with classmates during the last few years, we have seen **Melissa Tominac Stewart** and her wonderful son William from time to time.

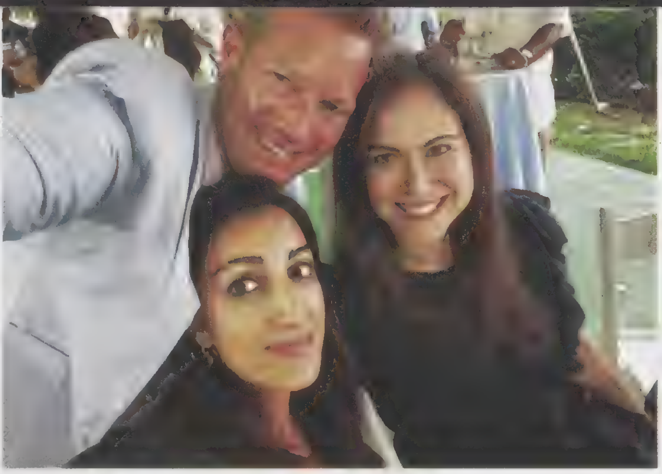
"It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces at reunion, especially **Caroline Puri Mitchell, Ellen Gustafson, Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani, Ken Lantigua, Fabian Chrobog, Allison Lloyds O'Neill, Lindsay Jurist-Rosner, Joseph Bernabucci, Nihal Godiwala, Jon Fischer, Jacqueline Cockrell Karp, Kristen Macellari Palmieri, Keith Palmieri, Joyce Chang Anderson, Kelly Jamieson Thomas SEAS'02** and **Joanna Keh Shing SEAS'02,** among others!"

See some reunion photos nearby, and more online at college.columbia.edu/cct!

Judy Sher and her husband live in the SF Bay Area. The have a daughter, Larissa (11), a son Logan (9) and welcomed another son, Lincoln, in March. They also got a puppy, Luna, in March 2021. Judy is a portfolio manager at Franklin Templeton and has been with the company since 2013.

A selection of **Mike Mellia**'s oil paintings have been featured by SFMOMA, San Francisco, Art Museum of South Texas, Larry's List, Contemporary Art Collectors, New American Paintings and other iconic institutions.

Leah Katznelson lives in Larchmont, N.Y., with her children (10 and 12) and her husband, Josh. She is a costume designer for film and television and recently completed a show for HBO, *The White House Plumbers,* with Woody Harrelson, about Watergate.



MICHAEL CANINO SEAS'02

Michael Canino SEAS'02, Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani '02 (center) and Lindsay Jurist-Rosner '02 at their 20th reunion class dinner on campus on June 10.

Natalie Robin lives and teaches in Philadelphia. She shares, "Along with my co-author, Brídín Cotton, we sold a book, *Equitable Labor Practices in Theatrical Production,* set for publication in 2024!"

Joyce Chang Anderson, whom I was so happy to see at reunion writes: "Had the best time seeing classmates at reunion! For the past 12 years, I've been living in Evanston, Ill., with my husband, Chris, and boys (8, 11 and 13). I launched an ed tech startup, Honest Game, in 2019, working mainly with school districts to empower students by using software to pair their passion for sports with their motivation for learning. Looking forward to our next reunion!"

It was so nice to catch up with **Paul Choi,** who had a blast seeing so many friendly faces at reunion. He hangs out with **Aaron Raskin, Jon Fischer** and **Will Hunter** regularly.

Congrats to **Grace Lee,** who soon after attending reunion won the Democratic primary for NYS Assembly in Assembly District 65. She is now the Democratic nominee and will go on to the General Election in November.

Helena Andrews-Dyer is a featured reporter for *The Washington Post* who lives in D.C. with her husband and two young daughters. "My third book, *The Mamas: What I Learned About Kids, Class, and Race from Moms Not Like Me,* examines race, class and parenting but is funny."

[Editor's note: See "Columbia Forum" in this issue.]

I was thrilled to have a reunion-within-reunion with my John Jay 6 floormates – **Helena Andrews-Dyer, Su Ahn, Saira Banatwala, Brendan Beier** and **Emily Erstling.** It was also magical to be back on campus with **Lindsay Jurist-Rosner** and **Michael Canino SEAS'02,** the three musketeers!

Highly recommend reunion to those in two minds about attending next time around. So fun to see so many familiar faces, rekindle old friendships and make new ones! See the nearby photos!

Share your news with me so I can share it with classmates! Send me an email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2003

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.ed
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Michael J. Novielli
mjn29@columbia.edu

Hope your fall is off to a great start. I'm happy to share some important updates from our classmates. As always, keep the updates coming.

Alexandra "Lexie" Kovach returned to Los Angeles, where she grew up, in 2020. She lives in the Los Feliz neighborhood and is a pathologist at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Lexie would love to connect with classmates in SoCal (lexie.kovach@gmail.com)!

Charlotte Will writes, "I recently celebrated a decade of working at Google followed by the birth of my third child, Henry. Life is about to get extra busy with the return to work alongside the return to the office and business travel, all while raising three boys (6, 3 and 5 months)!"

Seth Wax writes, "My wife, Liz BC'03, our daughter Mia (5) and I live in Williamstown, Mass. Since 2017, I've been the Jewish chaplain at Williams College, supporting Jewish life on campus, teaching informally and offering spiritual direction and pastoral care to the community. We love living in the northern Berkshires and hope that folks passing through will say hello!"

Rita Cameron (née Zakes) writes, "I have a novel coming out in September. In *The House Party,* a wealthy suburban town is torn apart when a group of teenagers break into an under-development house and a throw a party, nearly destroying the house and putting their bright futures at risk. I am a Graduate Steinbeck Fellow in the MFA Fiction program at San Jose State University starting this fall."

Andy Shin SEAS'04 writes, "My wife and I welcomed Theodore, our third child, into the world in December. Also, I joined HODINKEE as the chief product and technology officer. Still living in (and loving) Los Angeles."

James Thompson is the special counsel for Second Amendment litigation at the Office of the New York State Attorney General. He is bringing forward a case against multiple gun distributors that the State has accused of selling tens of thousands of illegal, unfinished frames and receivers to New Yorkers that were then converted into unserialized, untraceable handguns and assault-style weapons, known as ghost guns.

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2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

Catherine Yee was recently appointed medical director of Western Washington Medical Group, a provider-owned and run multispecialty medical practice with more than 100 providers in 23 locations serving the Puget Sound region. "I am excited for the opportunity to serve while continuing to care for my patients in my interventional pain and physiatry practice," Catherine writes.

Adam Spunberg's team at AB InBev won three Manufacturing Leadership Council Awards: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Digital Network Connectivity, and Operational Excellence.

That's all for this issue. Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you might take, events you have attended or are looking forward to or even interesting books or shows you have come across. You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, if a member of the couple, for "Just Married!") should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Left to right, Lynn Juang '02, Purdy Tran '02, Joyce Chang Anderson '02, Su Ahn '02, Jacqueline Cockrell Karp '02, Genevieve Thornton '02 and Joanna Keh Shing SEAS'02 gathered on June 9 at Reunion 2022.

Gathering at Reunion 2022 on June 9 were (back row) Fabian Chrobog '02, James Houtsma '02, Gareth Eckman '02 and Nihal Godiwala '02; and (front row) Jacqueline Cockrell Karp '02, Joyce Chang Anderson '02, Joanna Keh Shing SEAS'02, Kristin Turza Campbell '02, Kim Gold Blumenthal '02, Paul Choi '02, Jacqueline Corona '02, Caroline Puri '02 and Megha Desai BC'02.

2005

Sallie Touma
sallie@salliemathtutor.com

Hi Class of 2005! I hope this column finds you well.

Kaveh Dabashi's professional news: "I'm an employment attorney at Paul Hastings. This year, my wife and I traveled to Iceland. It's a stunning country."

It's a big year in education!

Jennie Magiera writes, "Since 2020 I've been the global head of education impact at Google. My team supports teachers around the world to maximize the use and usefulness of Google's tools in classrooms. Working in this space during the pandemic has been both humbling and rewarding."

Zachary Levenson published his first book, *Delivery as Dispossession: Land Occupation and Eviction in the Postapartheid City.* After wrapping up his fourth year as an assistant professor of sociology at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, he is heading to the University of Texas at Austin, where he will spend a year as a Donald D. Harrington Fellow.

Brendon Jobs shares, "I've been navigating my first year as head of upper school at Abington Friends School. What an adventure. After a year like this past one, I think I spoke for many educators when I said, bring on summer! This year also signified my fourth leading the history methods practicum as an adjunct with instructor at Penn GSE. The vigor and nerve of the master's students I support in the Independent School Teaching Residency Fellowship give me hope for the future."

Dan Binder accepted a position at Episcopal Collegiate School in Little Rock, Ark. "I will be the upper school director of student life. My children, Liv (5) and Eddie (3), will attend the school as well. Any alums in the central Arkansas area are invited to reach out!"

Nisha Verma writes, "My husband and I moved to Miami last year for my husband's job as VP of business development of FTX Cryptocurrency Exchange and the renaming of the Miami Heat arena to FTX Arena. I practice at the University of Miami as a primary care doctor and we welcomed our first child, Mila (5 months)."

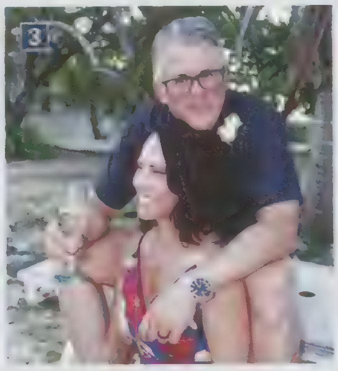
Xan Nowakowski Ph.D., M.P.H. notes, "My big news is I got

Just Married!

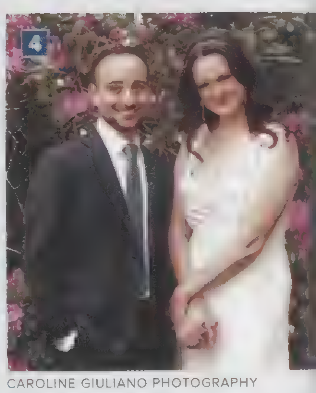
CCT welcomes wedding photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: **college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo**. Congratulations!

JERRY STRAUSS '77

REBECCA OU



MICHAEL MAXWELL



CAROLINE GIULIANO PHOTOGRAPHY

SHYLAUREL PHOTOGRAPHY

CHRISTIAN OTH STUDIO

LAUREN KEARNS

1. Celebrating with Audrey Andrews '18 at her May 14 wedding to Andrew Huber in Incline Village, Nev., were, left to right, Ethan Park '19, Kathleen Cook and Justin Strauss '19.

2. Kelvin Chan '13 married Rose Winer-Chan '13 (both center) at The DeBruce in Livingston Manor, N.Y., on June 1 with many Columbians in attendance. Left to right: Brandon Darin '13, Sarah McNitt-Grey, Victor Chang SEAS'13, Courtney Van Petten, Mario Rosser '14, Ezra Kebrab SEAS'13, sister of the groom Grace Chan '09, Justin Yang '13, Janelle Liu '13, Juan Gonzalez SEAS'13, Ysa Yu, Jordan Valentine '13, Emily Winer PH'17, Mark Fernandes '13 and officiant Venkat Kausik '13.

3. John Evans '91 and Lisa Smith were married on July 17 on Consuelo's Beach, Grand Cayman Island.

4. Patrick Aloia '15 and Madison Seely '15 were married on June 4 in Concord, Mass.

5. Left to right, Caroline Conover, Gabriella Levy '17, Maylin Meisenheimer, Alexandra Villarreal '17, Netana Markovitz '17 and Amanda Whitehead celebrated Villarreal's marriage to John Conover on January 16 at Camp Lucy in Dripping Springs, Texas.

6. Emily Waisman '10 (née Johnson) and Zachary Waisman '10 married on May 29 at Temple Emanu-El in New York City.

7. Mollie Bayer-Yitayew BC'19 and Michael Yitayew '19 were married on July 16 at Faculty House.

promoted to associate professor at FSU College of Medicine, effective August 8!"

I live on Long Island near the beach. If you're traveling this way, please let me know. It would be fun to reconnect, or to meet you!

Send your updates to me by email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, if a member of the couple, for "Just Married!") should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

And if you didn't get my email asking for news, I and the Alumni Office might not have your correct address. Please reach out to me by email and to the Alumni Office by webform (college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info) to update your address. Or just email or text me (516-368-6001) to say hi!

2006

Andrew Stinger
andrew.stinger@gmail.com

If you can believe it, the Class of 2026 is arriving to settle into campus life as first-years this fall. If the current happenings in the lives of their 20-year predecessors are any indication of what lies ahead, they're in for much joy, success and creativity!

Hannah Herchenbach completed a Ph.D. at the University of Otago, writing the history of 40 years of rock music culture on the South Island of New Zealand. Along the way, she formed her own all-girl indie rock band, PGX, whose debut album, *White Suit,* is coming out on the Christchurch-based indie label Melted Ice Cream in late 2022. Given the unique experience of starting a rock band in one's 30s, Hannah has been documenting the experience. Fingers crossed that we get to see a documentary or read a memoir of the experience! If you have a visit to New Zealand planned, or have local dive bar recommendations for when PGX comes through your town, Hannah would love to hear from you.

Morgan Sellers recently completed a fellowship in trauma surgery and critical care and accepted a position as assistant professor at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

Kristin Soong Rapoport and **Zachary Kleinhandler,** along with Kristin's husband, Phillip Rapoport '05, and Richard Rosenblum SEAS'04, opened Wildflower Farms, Auberge Resorts Collection this September in the Hudson Valley. The 65-cabin resort features three miles of hiking trails, a signature restaurant, an Auberge spa, event spaces and a farm education center.

Dr. **Tanya T. Khan,** an oculofacial plastic surgeon, opened her solo practice, Khan Eyelid & Facial Aesthetics, in Dallas. It is the culmination of four years of medical school at Duke, ophthalmology residency in New Orleans (Ochsner/LSU Health) and an oculoplastic surgery fellowship at Duke Eye Center.

Melina Gac Levin has launched Pueblo, a business that supports multicultural families raising young children. Pueblo offers evidence-based, inclusive, culturally sustaining classes on child development for parents, as well as private consultations, group workshops and more. Melina works directly with employers to offer classes and consultations as benefits to their employees. You can follow along on Instagram: @parentpueblo.

Jay Wong has moved to Toronto, where he continues to work in hospitality at Exclusive Resorts as executive VP of member experience. He and his fiancé, Shawn, plan to get married in December in Honolulu.

Best wishes to the grooms-to-be!

Tamar Fuhrer and her husband, **Jon Faria,** welcomed baby Jonah Shai Faria on March 3. Jonah joins their Culver City, Calif.-based pack, which also includes two agility dogs, Murray and Riff. Tamar works at Kite and Jon at Thomson Reuters, and they would love to hear from classmates who live in or plan to visit the Los Angeles area.

As for me, I wrapped up an exciting tenure at Coda, a software startup, in June. After some much-needed time to recharge and reconnect with family and friends, I've begun an exciting new adventure as head of marketing at Universe, a startup whose core product is an app that lets anyone, anywhere create a website via their mobile phone. I'm excited to get back into the consumer marketing space, especially in a way that helps break down the perceived barriers to technological and economic inclusion for creatives and creators. And, of course, my senior rescue dog, Trousers, is excited that I'll be back working from home and available for belly rubs more consistently.

ANASTASIA STRATE PHOTOGRAPHY

Left to right, Steve Mumford '05, Bridget Stefanski '05 (née Geibel), Rebecca Levine '05 (née Silberberg), Lindsey May SEAS'05, Kavior Moon '05, Alex Seggerman '05 and Steve Poellot '05 celebrated with May at her wedding to Eric Singleton in Austin, Texas, on May 1.

Send your news to me by email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2007

David Donner Chait
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

It was so nice to be back on campus and to see so many classmates at our 15-year reunion! Reunion 2022 (June 9–12) was a lot of fun and filled with great events for our class including a meetup at V&T and a class dinner at Casa Italiana, among other multi-class events. Our dinner was very well attended and it was wonderful catching up with so many classmates. Despite it being 15 years, it felt as though no time had passed.

For me, reunion was also special, as it was the first time I brought my daughters to campus. It was very meaningful to show them around and relive memories. Can't wait for our 20-year!

Here are two updates from classmates.

Andy Wolfe shares, "I graduated with a B.A. in computer science. That set me up nicely for a leadership role in the technology space that culminated with the sale of a software company I started, ROIKOI, at the end of 2019. I leaned on my meditation practice, which my grandfather introduced me to as a kid, as I contemplated what to do next, and have since launched Mindful Optimizations, where I integrate all the things to help executives succeed, happier — a mix of evidence-based self-care, it's what I wish I had along my own journey. The last year has been immensely rewarding in touching the lives of a number of clients and their companies."

Becca Hartog writes, "We bought our first house last summer. Our daughter turned 2 and is a delightful human."

Share your news, too! Reach out to me by email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_ class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2008

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
[illegible]
Development Contact
[illegible]

Bradley Blackburn
blb2104@columbia.edu

Happy fall, CC'08!

Fifteen years ago we were starting our senior year in Morningside Heights. Wild, no?

Updates to share from several classmates:

David Henry Gerson finished a documentary on Syrian artists in exile, *The Story Won't Die*, which was released worldwide via video on demand on World Refugee Day, June 21. It followed a year of success at film festivals: Hot Docs, AFI Docs, winner of Best Director at Doc LA and Best Doc Feature at FIC Autor Guadalajara. He invites Lions to check it out!

Farah Mohammed exhibited her first solo art show in Mangawhai, New Zealand, in April. Farah's show, "Memories," was a collection of her works in acrylic on canvas of beach scenes around Mangawhai and Langs beaches, where she lived for the past three and a half years. In May, Farah returned to live in her hometown on the island nation of Trinidad and Tobago. She plans to continue her art at home as well as her food business, Farah's Kitchen, which she also built during her time in New Zealand.

Christine Han is a senior trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of the Solicitor, Plan Benefits Security Division. She says she is proud to have recently submitted her first cert brief to the U.S. Supreme Court!

Ingrid Scholze wrote from Chappaqua, N.Y., about her new LLC, Scholze ADR, a mediation, arbitration and consulting firm specializing in commercial disputes. She launched it earlier this year and says she is dedicated to helping parties achieve success through clear communication and creative settlement design. Ingrid spent more than seven years litigating complex, high-stakes disputes at Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan involving clients in the financial services, energy, insurance and healthcare sectors, as well as those seeking advice in antitrust and regulatory matters. She earned a J.D. from Chicago Law.

Charles Carey is a finalist to become the town administrator of Brookline, Mass., one of the largest towns in New England. Before moving to Massachusetts, Charles served in several roles in the New York City Mayor's Office of Housing Recovery Operations.

And **Gilma Avalos Blackburn** and your correspondent, **Bradley Blackburn,** are thrilled to announce the birth of their second daughter. Blair Emilia Blackburn was born in June at Columbia University Irving Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan. We are enjoying life together as a family of four!

Thanks for keeping up with your CC'08 classmates. Please share your news for a future edition! Send updates to me by email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, if a member of the couple, for "Just Married!") should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2009

Shira Burton
shira.burton@gmail.com

Greetings, Class of 2009 classmates. As always, I've enjoyed getting your updates this time around. Please keep sending them! Reach out by email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Jeff Petriello shares some delightful news: "I got a publishing deal for my queer, Italian-American themed tarot deck, The Pasta Tarot. It'll be widely available at the start of December."

Daniella Zalcman checks in: "I moved to New Orleans about a year ago and finished teaching the spring semester as the T. Anthony Pollner Distinguished Professor at the University of Montana (Missoula is a lot colder than New Orleans, it turns out). Now I'm getting back into my photojournalism projects and continuing to run my nonprofit, Women Photograph."

After a year learning Russian at the Foreign Service Institute in Virginia, **Andrew Scheineson** is moving with his wife, Nilda, and their dog, Zoya, to Tashkent, Uzbekistan, to work for three years at the U.S. Embassy.

Asya Wallach (née Izraelit) writes, "This last decade I got married and this year welcomed the birth of our third and fourth children. I've moved to Westfield, N.J., and am a multiple sclerosis subspecialist neurologist at the Holy Name MS Center in Teaneck."

PATRIC PRADO SEAS'09

Left to right, Patric Prado SEAS'09, tiffany dockery '09, Amy Duffuor '09 and Peter Gallotta '09 on their March 9 friends reunion trip in California.

Katie Reedy has been living in NYC since 2018. She's still in the foreign service and recently had assignments in Kabul, with Penguin Random House (really) and in the foreign correspondents office at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. This past June, during a bike ride along the Erie Canal, she invoked Saint Augustine to argue with some anti-abortion protestors in Utica, demonstrating yet again that the Core Curriculum has many real-world applications.

MaryAlice Parks JRN'13 married Lt. Christopher Kimmel, U.S. Navy JAG Corps, in her hometown of Tacoma, Wash., on April 2. The couple was overjoyed to have friends and family from around the world travel to the Pacific Northwest for the special occasion, including Chris' family from Oklahoma and several Columbia classmates. Deanna Weiner BC'06 took on essential bridesmaid duties alongside MaryAlice's sisters. The couple's priest from their church in Washington, D.C., officiated. The ceremony was held in the small, historic Episcopal chapel at the all-girls high school MaryAlice attended, just blocks from her childhood home. With unseasonably stunning weather, the group danced all night in the school's dazzling tented courtyard. The couple is excited to continue their life together with their cat, Danny, in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, D.C. Last year MaryAlice began a role at ABC News as a White House correspondent just weeks before Chris proposed.

tiffany dockery, Amy Duffuor, Peter Gallotta and **Patric Prado SEAS'09,** PH'14 recently reunited in the California desert and found themselves standing among the Joshua trees — a fitting backdrop, given that Joshua tree forests tell a story of growth and resilience despite adverse conditions. (See the nearby photo!) tiffany has settled into her role at Etsy as a director of product management after spending three years at Instagram and completing an M.B.A. at the Yale School of Management. Amy lives in Boston and is a general partner at a climate tech VC fund, Azolla Ventures. While she loves investing in transformative climate startups, she says she misses New York every day. Prior to her time in New York, Amy spent almost a decade living in the United Kingdom and Singapore. She earned an M.B.A. from Wharton and an M.Phil. in migration studies from The University of Oxford. Peter has been living in San Francisco since graduation thanks to rent control and has spent most of the last decade working on groundbreaking climate and environmental policies for the City of San Francisco. In early 2020, he decided to bite the bullet and run for local political office. He was elected by the voters to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee, where he now serves as vice-chair. In May, Peter earned an M.P.A. from the Goldman School of Public Policy at the UC Berkeley. Patric lives in Oakland, Calif., and works on the Covid-19 epidemic response in Latinx communities at UC San Francisco. Before the pandemic he was working on international data analytics and systems for HIV in the global south, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa. He also consults, assisting national and local public health organizations with public health-related data science projects and data processing pipelines. He earned an M.P.H. from the Mailman School.

2010

Billy Organek
william.a.organek@gmail.com

Hi Class of 2010! I'm thrilled that so many of you shared updates this summer.

David J. Amado (who graduated as David J. Irwin) is a filmmaker, choreographer and dancer residing in Lisbon as of 2017. His film *Velveteen* debuted at Lisbon Fashion Week 2021 and was featured in *PARQ* magazine. *Velveteen* chronicles one queer black man's journey from self-hatred and repression toward self-discovery and acceptance. David continued exploring queer black narratives with *True Colors,* which examines black queer men's relationship to traditional notions of masculinity and the ways in which we must conform in order to survive. Stay tuned for the premiere of *True Colors* this September. Self-taught and still learning, David hopes to build community with other filmmakers. Feel free to reach out on IG @davidjamado.

Mary Ann Bonet moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 2021 to join the Oakland Museum of California as its senior director of learning, experience and programming. She is also thrilled to share that the Institute of Museum and Library Services awarded OMCA a 2022 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. This is the highest honor for institutions that make significant and exceptional contributions to their communities, and was given to only six organizations this year. Mary Ann encourages anyone who is in the area and would like to visit OMCA to reach out!

Gabriella Ripoll and her husband recently had a daughter, Brigitte Fernandes. She was born during the blizzard that hit the New York City area at the end of January, and Gabriella is happy to say that Brigitte is a very happy baby!

Evie Symington is proud to share that, after making her first movies in the backyard at 11 and majoring in film studies at Columbia, her first feature film has just been released by XYZ Films! *Brut Force* is a twisty noir thriller set in wine country, and has been recommended by *The New York Times.* By the time this goes to press, *Brut Force* will be available to stream on Tubi.

Benjamin Velez had a pre-Broadway run of his musical, *Kiss My Aztec!,* which was written with John Leguizamo, at the Hartford (Conn.) Stage. The show premiered at the Berkeley Repertory Theater and the La Jolla Playhouse. Several Columbians came out to see the premiere. See the nearby photo!

DAVID GARDOS

At a performance of *Kiss My Aztec!* at the Hartford (Conn.) Stage on June 4 were, left to right, Freddie Tunnard '11, Jennifer Baker '12, Benjamin Velez '10, Hannah Jack BC'09, Joseph Goldberg '10 and Benji Jack SEAS'07.

Emily Waisman (née Johnson) married **Zach Waisman** on May 29 at Temple Emanu-El on the Upper East Side, followed by a reception at the restaurant Daniel. (See "Just Married!" for a photo.) Several classmates joined: **Charlotte Barker** (née Freinberg), **Kevin Jason,** Billy Freeland '09, Alex Gaspard-Smith '14 and Micah Smith '14. Zach and Emily met on the second day of freshman orientation, and celebrated their 15th dating anniversary last December. Zach practiced as an attorney for several years, completed the postbaccalaureate pre-medical program at the School of General Studies in 2020 and recently started his third year of medical school at Brown. Emily, meanwhile, is a communications expert at McKinsey. The Waismans split their time between the Upper West Side and Providence, R.I.

Finally, I'm happy to share that my wife, Stephanie, and I celebrated our one-year wedding anniversary on June 18. As we were married during the depths of Covid-19, we were only able to celebrate in person with our immediate family. For our one-year anniversary, we hosted a party for our friends who were unable to join us in person last year. Among the attendees were **Maximo Cubilette,** Ally Duffey BC'10, Whitney Green SEAS'10, Kevin Jiang '13, Sona Roy SEAS'17, **Kunaal Sharma** and **Scott Wang.** Raj Roy SEAS'10, SEAS'11 joined us from Texas for brunch the following day. It was a wonderful celebration, and we were so fortunate to have had so many Columbians join us! See the nearby photo!

KATELYN LANDIS

William Organek '10 and his wife, Stephanie, celebrated their first anniversary with friends at the Soho Grand Hotel in NYC on June 18. Left to right were Ally Duffey BC'10, Maximo Cubilette '10 and Organek.

Share your news with me by email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and
Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

Twenty-Eleven! Somehow, it's been 11 years since we graduated. As always, we're so thrilled to hear about so many of your successes.

Your class correspondents are hanging in. **Nuriel Moghavem** has embarked on his last year (he hopes) of post-doctoral training as a fellow in multiple sclerosis and neuroimmunology at the University of Southern California. Nuriel and his wife, Stephanie, enjoyed a vacation in Spain, where they walked a portion of the Camino de Santiago and ate their hearts out in Madrid. **Sean Udell** started his last year of psychiatry residency at Penn and has been appointed chief resident for this academic year. Though he is not living out a *Grey's Anatomy* fantasy, he is humbled by the opportunity to continue to improve a training program that he has loved. Sean and his husband, Jonathan, enjoyed a much-needed Sicilian vacation full of food and sun.

Meanwhile, more future Columbians have joined our ranks: **Betsy Morais** and **Thomas Rhiel** are now parents! Minna Morais Rhiel was born on November 10, weighing 6 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 19.7 inches. Her Core Curriculum thus far consists of Lit Hum (*The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Peekaboo Apple*), Art Hum (high-contrast images), Music Hum (Ella Fitzgerald, "Take Me Out to the Ballgame") and Contemporary Civilization (living in Brooklyn). She is a wonderfully smiley baby, deeply curious, and she loves to dance.

Several of us have recently enjoyed exciting job changes! **Ivy Fortmeyer** was recently granted tenure and a promotion to associate professor at Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Mont., where she's been teaching chemistry since 2016. She celebrated by running away to the United Kingdom for two weeks, an adventure that included both getting lost in Welsh farmland and spotting a member of the royal family in London. **Lauren Dwyer** transitioned to a role at the WNBA as director of growth and innovation. She is a season ticket holder at the New York Liberty and with Columbia women's basketball and thinks you should be too — they're great places to be!

More of us got hitched! **Dino Grandoni** JRN'15 married Eva Hill last October in Winston-Salem, N.C. The event ended up being a mini reunion, with a big Columbia contingent in attendance. The couple lives in Washington, D.C., where Dino is a reporter at *The Washington Post*, covering environmental issues, and Eva is an animator and book illustrator. The two met in New York while working at The Huffington Post.

And some of us are working on all of the above in tandem! **Gairy Hall** BUS'16 has had a busy 2022 so far, with an apartment move to the Upper West Side (just on the outskirts of the Columbia bubble), a promotion to principal at The Carlyle Group (which he joined on the cusp of the pandemic in 2020) and an engagement to Colleen. She bleeds blue as well — albeit a slightly darker shade — having attended the University of Michigan for both college and law school. They are excited to tie the knot in a small ceremony in June 2023 in New York, and are taking notes on all things marriage and babies from CC'11 friends **Zila Acosta-Grimes, Josh Wan** LAW'16 and **Jeremy Tapp.**

Please continue to keep us in the loop with how you're doing. It brings us so much joy to hear of so many of you doing so well. Send updates by email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, if a member of the couple, for "Just Married!") should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2012

Sarah Chai Schildknecht
sarahbchai@gmail.com

Hi everyone. I hope this column finds you and your loved ones staying well. I was excited to receive this note about a CU love story:

On June 10, 2022, **Jasmine Little** and **Dane Cook** got engaged at Grand Central Station, and celebrated the occasion at the Class of 2012 10-year reunion, held June 9–12 on campus.

We also have some classmates on the move. **Ian Scheffler** writes, "My wife and I moved to Philadelphia for her medical residency. I'll teach English and computer science at a small public high school. If you're in the Philly area, it would be great to reconnect!"

Noah Buckley writes, "After five years in Seattle, I'll attend the Creative Writing MFA Program at Emerson College in the fall and would love to connect with alumni in the Boston area: noahvbuckley@gmail.com."

Last but certainly not least, here's an update from Pakistan from **Gillian Rhodes:** "This past June, the film I choreographed, *Kamli,* was finally released in cinemas across Pakistan to incredible critical and popular acclaim. I recently completed a semester course at Beaconhouse National University on performance art and produced and performed an evening of work featuring five new collaborations with a wide range of diverse Pakistani artists."

It's always great to hear from classmates. Hope to hear from others soon. Send me an email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

ADRIAN SILVER '15

Adrian Silver '15 and Emma Tuzinkiewicz '15 met up in Príncipe, Africa, where Tuzinkiewicz works, on May 3.

2013

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

Hope everyone had a great summer! I spent the last few months enjoying the sun and beach with my daughter, who turned 2 this past summer. I rounded out one year as COO of Pietra, a tech company focused on the creator economy!

Here are some awesome updates from your classmates:

Jacki Karsh JRN'14 (née Bryk) welcomed her third child, a son named Cooper, in February and was nominated by the Television Academy for her fifth local Emmy Award in June for her work as an L.A. County news reporter/producer.

Neeti Deoras BUS'19 and **Jeremy Liss** have been together since they met freshman year on John Jay 7. After marrying in 2016, they settled down on the Upper West Side. Neeti is an investment banker at Morgan Stanley. Jeremy is a lawyer at Paul, Weiss and a lecturer at the Law School. The couple has an 18-month-old daughter who is obsessed with animals and the sounds they make.

Isabel Losada and her husband, Pablo, welcomed their daughter, Pilar Belén Justel, into the world on May 14. They traveled to Spain this summer to introduce her to her grandparents, great-grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Ryan Cho recently finished a Ph.D. in sociology at UCLA and is moving to Washington, D.C., where he'll be a research scientist at Meta. He says he's looking forward to reconnecting with classmates on the East Coast!

Simon Gregory Jerome SIPA'14 married fellow attorney Jason Mitchell Scheff in a May 29 ceremony at the Crane Estate in Ipswich, Mass.

Congrats!

Elizabeth Power spent the summer in New Orleans to direct Fat Squirrel's southeast regional premiere of Pam Gems' landmark feminist drama, *Dusa, Fish, Stas, & Vi,* starring Lucy Faust (*The Underground Railroad, Mudbound*). The show ran August 8–18 at Bryant NOLA Park.

Rose Winer-Chan and **Kelvin Chan,** Columbia College sweethearts, got married on June 11. They met freshman year on John Jay 8, started dating in April 2014 and, in Rose's words, "finally, only 12-plus years later, tied the knot." Many of their JJ8 floormates were groomsmen and plenty of Columbia friends were wedding guests. See "Just Married!" for a photo.

Congrats, Rose and Kelvin!

Adriana Garcia Ceja graduated with an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School after a pandemic gap year. She recently founded Bolivar Progress Partners, a search fund looking to acquire a small to medium business in the United States, and is the only female pursuing this entrepreneurship through acquisition path from her M.B.A. class (bolivarprogress.com). Adriana also co-founded a Latinx non-profit and authored a Spanish/English children's book, *¡Si, Tu Puedes! Camila Finds Her Talent.*

Share your news with me by email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2014

Rebecca Schechter Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

No updates for this issue! Please feel free to reach out to me at any time. Send me an email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of at least 750 kb that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Hello, Class of 2015! I hope everyone is doing well! Two quick updates:

First up, we have an amazing photo submission from **Emma Tuzinkiewicz** and **Adrian Silver.** They write: "Olá from Príncipe, an island off the west coast of Africa just north of the equator at 1°N, and Emma's new home! Adrian ventured to this little-known Biosphere Reserve to visit Emma. Together, they enjoyed a week adventuring in the biodiverse, verdant rainforest and to secluded, warm beaches. Emma is sustainability director and chief of staff at an ecotourism and agroforestry company, HBD Príncipe. Come visit!"

Second, I have an update of my own! This past May, I graduated with a J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law. At the ceremony, I received the Frank S. Righeimer, Jr. Student Prize for Citizenship, which is given to a graduating student in recognition of exceptional citizenship within the Harvard Law community (bit.ly/3BFfFOL).

As always, classmates want to hear from you! Please submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

Hey CC'16-ers. It was really great to see so many familiar faces at Reunion 2022, held June 9–12. If you're reading this, yes, people go to reunion — see the nearby photo of me, **Shen Qiu** and **Rebecca Xu** before hitting the open bar. Come to the next one! :)

I've taken on the role of COO of **Sophia Horowitz**'s nonprofit performing arts company, based in Tokyo and San Francisco. I still live in New York. More news to come on that one; please follow Sophia at @sophmaster or reach out to me for updates! (Reading this column will also probably suffice, depending on your interest level.) Always looking to connect with more of you and if you know anyone in nonprofits or the arts, let me know! Also, here's my obligatory plug to ask you to submit updates of cool things you're all up to and send me photos — submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Send photos of 750 kb or larger directly to *CCT*, as long as they feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo — so this doesn't turn into my diary column.

On to your classmates:

From **Mohit Jain:** "After a few years living in Chicago, I recently moved back to NYC! I work at an NYC-based hedge fund, Honeycomb Asset Management, covering technology, media and telecoms. Feel free to reach out!" See the nearby photo from Mohit's birthday party!

Madison Ford wrote that she, **Mackenzie Jones** and **Anna Leone** were bridesmaids for **Sanjana Salwi**'s wedding. Many CC'16-ers were also in attendance! See a photo in our column online: college.columbia.edu/cct.

Tune in next time for some other big news that didn't make its way into this edition!

Enjoying the Chelsea Piers Reception, held on June 10 during Reunion 2022, were, left to right, Lily Liu-Krason '16, Shen Qiu '16 and Rebecca Xu '16.

PROGGA RASHID SEAS'15

Celebrating Mohit Jain '16's birthday at The Ready Rooftop Bar in NYC on June 25 were, left to right, James Cheung, Caroline Chen '18, Rebecca Aschen, Dae Kim, Cole Diamond '13, Jamie Lee, Henry Deng SEAS'16, Bingcong Zhu '16, Andrew Petschek, Danielle Kovarsky '16, Claudia Moreira SEAS'16, Jain, David Streid '16, Alexandra Hough, Amy Fu SEAS'15, Kelly Echavarria '16, Hao Yao and Sam Kindred.

LILY LIU-KRASON '16

2017

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

I hope everyone is enjoying the fall! It was great seeing everyone who was able to attend our five-year reunion June 9–12. FYI, the Alumni Office has posted photos of the events (bit.ly/3vgUf6G). Chances to reconnect with old friends and classmates are always special, and in the light of reconnection, some classmates have life updates they wanted to share:

Jeremy Cooper BUS'21 and his wife, Ellin BC'19, had a boy, Ariel Leib, on October 14, 2021. Jeremy remarks, "I was thinking of bringing him to reunion, but ended up coming solo because it was past his bedtime."

Bonnie's Rocket, a new picture book by **Emily Lau** (writing as Emeline Lee), illustrated by Alina Chau, comes out on September 27. Find Emily at emelinelee.com and follow her on social media at @EmelineLeeBooks.

Here is a synopsis of the book: "Bonnie's father is an engineer for the *Apollo 11* space mission. Bonnie is an engineer too, developing a rocket that she plans to shoot high into the sky. While Baba works on the moon-landing module far away, Bonnie designs, builds and tests her own project — with sometimes-disastrous results! Throughout the process, Baba's letters encourage her in her work, and after the astronauts return from the moon, Baba comes home in time to see Bonnie launch her amazing rocket.

"Inspired by the experiences of the author's grandfather, who helped design the space suits and life-support systems on the *Apollo 11* lunar module, *Bonnie's Rocket* celebrates the diverse team that contributed to one of the United States' greatest achievements. It's also a heartwarming father-daughter story and a terrific gift for budding engineers and space fans of all ages."

Andrea Beaty, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Rosie Revere, Engineer,* says of the book, "In a fresh perspective on events that changed the universe, *Bonnie's Rocket* reveals to readers that STEM is at its most powerful when it is personal."

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2018

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Alexander Birkel
and Maleeha Chida
ab4065@columbia.edu
mnc2122@columbia.edu

Congratulations are in order for **Kat Denney** (née Broekman) who had a baby, Liam, this past February!

Tenlie Mourning has established a startup, Dendwell, while staying connected to Columbia! Tenlie writes, "We recently graduated from the Columbia University Startup Lab and launched a curated marketplace for vintage furniture and home decor."

We hope to continue staying connected. Please send updates by emailing us at the addresses at the top of the column or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, if a member of the couple, for "Just Married!") should be sent directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2019

Tj Aspen Givens and
Emily Gruber
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emilyannegruber@gmail.com

Hello, Class of 2019! We hope that you enjoyed the summer. It was great to hear from you, and we hope that you will send your updates along for a future issue by email, or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Zak Aldridge shared: "In between mouthfuls of *pani puri* and grandiose conversation, my brother **Sam Aldridge** and I have rebranded and expanded our essay editing business with the indispensable help of Nivita Arora SEAS'19, our would-be triplet. Check us out at ivyessayguild.com. Hope everyone's well and happy.

JERRY STRAUSS '77

At the Celebration of Dean Valentini: Breakfast and Farewell Address, held during Reunion 2022 on June 11, were (left to right) Peter Zheng '19, Jiachen Feng '19, Emily Gruber '19, former dean James J. Valentini, Heidi Hai '19, Donghao Yan '19, Justin Strauss '19 and James Gong '19.

JASON VISC

Brothers Zak Aldridge '19 (left) and Sam Aldridge '19 celebrating a birthday in Upstate New York on August 2.

Warm greetings to you from Kathmandu." See the nearby photo!

Jackie Brown will move from NYC to the Bay Area to begin a Ph.D. in sociology at UC Berkeley.

Stephanie Chen shared: "I am living my fullest life and decided to reexplore what makes me 'me.' I'm pursuing music and acting endeavors with recent forays into philosophy and the psyche. This year I've worked both on Minecraft and traveled to the Amazon in Peru exploring plant medicines, and as part of journeying into music, I now run a creative anime+music YouTube channel; username is Chikura. Till next time!"

Francesca Croce was awarded the Austrian Academy of Sciences' DOC Fellowship for her Ph.D. research at the University of Vienna's art history department. Her project, *The Divine Master: Raphael and the Works of Giovan Pietro Bellori and Carlo Maratti,* explores the written and painterly works of two famous 17th-century figures who left an indelible mark on Baroque art.

Avidan Halivni and Yaffa Fogel BC'17 met in Pizmon, Columbia's Jewish a cappella group, and were recently engaged in Montana, surrounded by friends Liora Fishman BC'18, Yona Benjamin GS/JTS'20 and Noam Lindenbaum GS/JTS'21. The couple resides in Chicago.

Haidun Liu will be a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Government at Harvard starting in September.

Justin Strauss shared the nearby photo from Reunion 2022!

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2020

Stephen Cone and
Kyra Ann Dawkins
jsc2247@columbia.edu
kad2196@columbia.edu

Canwen Xu started a job at Chapter, a healthcare tech startup based in New York City.

Evan Day accepted a full-ride admissions offer from the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine and is moving to Pasadena, Calif., from Honolulu with his partner and two dogs to attend.

Thank you to all who submitted notes, and we look forward to hearing from more of you soon. Please send your Class Notes to either of us, or submit them through the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Send photos for Class Notes that are 750 kb or larger and feature two or more CC alumni (or one CC alum, if a member of the couple, for "Just Married!") directly to *CCT* through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2021

Mario A. Garcia Jr.
mag2329@columbia.edu

Hey Class of 2021! I hope all is well and that you were able to catch a wonderful summer and will have a great fall, wherever in the world you may be. If you have anything new going on in your life that you'd like to share with classmates, feel free to send me updates. Additionally, if you attended our first reunion, held June 9–12, feel free to send any photos from the weekend! I'd love to feature those as well. Submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Send photos of 750 kb or larger right to *CCT,* as long as they feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Thomas Wee moved to Brooklyn a year ago. They were working at a small literary magazine and as a barista part time. They're about to start a full-time job in publishing as an assistant at the Wylie Agency. In their free time, Thomas was also writing a script for a movie, *Zucchini,* that was to film this past summer.

Eva Schatz recently made the move from her hometown in Georgia to San Francisco. She is an associate bank examiner for the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Eva says she is excited for new beginnings and new coastlines!

2022

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Hello, CC'22! This column is your place to share news and updates with classmates. *CCT* needs one or two class members to oversee this column as class correspondents. Never fear: You'll get lots of help from the *CCT* staff. If you're interested, please email cct@columbia.edu with the subject line "CC'22 class correspondent."

We have one note to start us off! **Julia Angkeow** writes: "I published a first-author paper on profiling antibody responses to microbial toxins and virulence factors in *Immunity*! I am grateful to have been awarded a 2021 Columbia College Summer Funding Program award (through the Harold F. Linder Summer Internship Fund) to support my research endeavors at the Larman Laboratory at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine."

Columbia Reunion 2023, for classes ending in 3 and 8, and for your class, the newest members of the Columbia College Alumni Association, is scheduled for Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3. Watch your mailbox and inbox for info.

In the meantime, send us all your latest news and happenings, and we'll share them in a future issue. Write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

Have a great fall, and welcome to the alumni community!

obituaries

Columbia College Today has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. You can read more about their lives and find a featured obituary for Richard C. Wald '52 at college.columbia.edu/cct. To submit an obituary for a Columbia College graduate, go to college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_obituary.

1942 **Gerald H. Klingon,** neurologist, New York City, on October 31, 2021.

1944 **Harold E. Brandmaier,** engineer, Harrington Park, N.J., on April 11, 2022.

1948 **Daniel N. Hoffman,** attorney, San Jose, Calif., on January 1, 2022.

Dennis N. Marks, physician, Sacramento, Calif., on January 10, 2022.

1949 **George W. Intemann,** automotive executive, La Quinta, Calif., on January 17, 2022.

1952 **N. David Charkes,** physician, Collegeville, Pa., on April 1, 2022.

Ralph S. Scherer, financial executive, Alexandria, Va., on December 31, 2020.

Richard C. Wald, journalist and professor, New Rochelle, N.Y., on May 13, 2022.

1954 **Henry Clay Black II,** State Department officer, Chevy Chase, Md., on May 22, 2022.

1955 **Richard B. Bloomenstein,** plastic surgeon, Englewood, N.J., on August 8, 2022.

1956 **Richard J. Schwarzstein,** attorney, Laguna Beach, Calif., on May 29, 2022.

1958 **Robert R. Jespersen,** attorney, Melbourne, Fla., on June 4, 2022.

1961 **Richard K. Fadem,** professor, Santa Fe, N.M., on May 17, 2022.

Mark A. Franklin, professor, Clayton, Mo., on May 22, 2021.

1962 **James M. Balquist,** quality control manager, Sunnyvale, Calif., on April 14, 2022.

Arnold H. Bank, physician and attorney, Westbury, N.Y., on June 13, 2022.

Anthony E. Wolf, child psychologist, Suffield, Conn., on June 1, 2022.

1963 **Stephen D. Cetrulo,** surgeon, Taos, N.M., on January 1, 2022.

1966 **Thomas Kalfa,** safety and security expert, Cerritos, Calif., on March 16, 2022.

Gerald E. Warshaver, professor and dean, New York City, on April 30, 2022.

1970 **Dale D. Goble,** professor, Moscow, Idaho, on April 14, 2022.

1973 **Edward C. "Ted" Mooney,** editor and author, New York City, on March 25, 2022.

1974 **Anthony A. "Andy" Tron,** lighting designer and teacher, Bedford Hills, N.Y., on May 27, 2022.

1975 **Edward T. Shaskin,** bank examiner, Paramus, N.J., on March 25, 2022.

1981 **Ira T. Berkowitz,** rabbi and writer, Jerusalem, Israel, on August 24, 2021.

1984 **Adam M. Sutner,** ski resort executive, Crystal Mountain, Wash., on April 4, 2022.

1992 **Dara E. Goldman,** professor, Champaign, Ill., on May 13, 2022.

2008 **Richard A. Taddonio III,** credit research analyst, New York City, on June 21, 2022.

readitonline

COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

Fellowship on the Thames, left to right: Coxswain Charles Sherman JRN'69 (back to camera); Al Medioli '73, GSAPP'79; Paul Gruber SEAS'72; Philip Adkins '80; Air Marshal Andrew Turner; Dr. Paul Demartini '72, PS'77; Howard Strateman Jr. SEAS'73, BUS'76; John E. Mulligan III '72; and Nobuhisa Ishizuka '82, LAW'86.

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When the fastest Columbia crew in generations raced at England's prestigious Henley Royal Regatta in 1971, the last thing they imagined was skimming across those same English waters half a century later. Yet the core of that lightweight eight did just that on July 3, kicking off the afternoon finals of the six-day regatta with a stately paddle past a cheering crowd straight out of a 19th-century daguerreotype: gentlemen in loud ties and zany blazers, ladies in long dresses and fascinators. Among other milestones, the Lions were celebrating their 50th anniversary at Henley (a year late due to the pandemic) and the 100th anniversary of lightweight rowing at Columbia.

"I have had the amazing experience of engaging in neural stem cell research and learning violin performance from world-class musicians. The generous support of Columbia College Fund donors opened up opportunities and career experiences for me and for others that we would never have had otherwise."

— Richard Cho CC'23

HANNA CHIPMAN

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Winter/Spring 2023

A DEEP DIVE

CAN ANSWERS TO CLIMATE CHANGE BE FOUND AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN?

HARRY POTTER IN THE HOUSE!

A RISING YOUNG STAR MAKES HIS BROADWAY DEBUT

The Practice of Positivity

Cassie Mogilner Holmes '02 has the secret to happiness — and it's about time

Columbia welcomed me with open arms. I have never felt more at home than at the University, which would not have been possible without my financial aid award. I am so grateful for the opportunities that I have been offered here.

— Natalie Brokish CC'23

Gifts to the Columbia College Fund help the College meet 100 percent of a student's demonstrated financial need for all four years of study. Your contribution makes this ambitious and progressive financial aid policy possible and allows students like Natalie to make the most of a Columbia College education.

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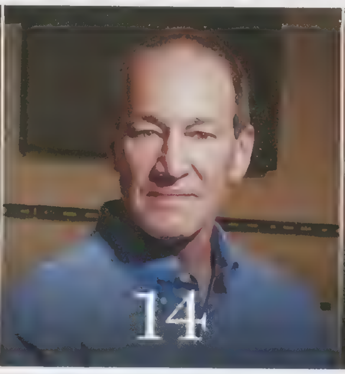

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Message from the Dean

A Time for Renewal

The many ways that we engage with time — past, present and future — are themes running throughout this issue of *Columbia College Today*. They also form a thread connecting many of the experiences, traditions and people I have had the pleasure and privilege of engaging with since becoming dean. And, with an opportunity over winter break to pause and reflect on the past six months, I have been struck by how the living history of our alumni community, and the centuries-old ideals that define Columbia College's traditions, play such vital roles in shaping today's campus.

Since moving into Hamilton Hall last July, my immersion in the work of the College — beyond the quotidian — has centered on an ongoing series of illuminating and broad-ranging conversations with numerous alumni, faculty and students. This exploration has been guided by a simple but expansive question that I expect to revisit continually in the years to come: What does it take to meet the mission of the College?

Of course, any discussion of the College's mission is inextricably bound up with the Core Curriculum — our most tangible link to the deeper history of the College and the intellectual tradition that defines it. By extension, the delicate balance between continuity and innovation at the heart of the Core is also essential to the College's drive to ensure that the experience we provide for today's students remains as transformative and attuned to the present moment as it has been for generations. And while this curricular link to the College's past is critical, it does not address the full holistic scope of our mission.

Developing that more complete view requires a broader grounding in the College's living history, a critical frame of reference for current circumstances. As Shakespeare aptly put it, "what's past is prologue," and our vibrant alumni community is our best link to that shared history, making the time I have already spent with alumni particularly rewarding. In addition to providing me with opportunities to receive a host of welcome and practical counsel, these encounters have deepened my appreciation for the enduring connections our students form while on campus. Spanning geography, fields of study, professional endeavors and time, these connections bind generations of students and inspire many to give back in support of generations yet to come.

Throughout the Fall term, the power of those connections could be seen anew on our campus. With the increase in chance encounters, we witnessed the type of impromptu gatherings that spark curiosity and friendships, and that build camaraderie and a sense of community. These elements, essential in the life of a residential college at every level — academic, co-curricular and personal — had been stifled by the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. And, while consciousness of the lingering public health situation remains, the return of student events, unrestricted gatherings and even co-curricular programming like on-campus employer recruiting have all fostered a renewed energy across the College.

DIANE BONDAREFF

I've felt this same energy throughout the many meetings, events and conversations I have participated in since last summer. It has been accompanied by an undercurrent of deep appreciation for what we have regained and a concerted effort to refocus on what is most central and essential to the experience we deliver for our students.

My role as steward of that experience would be impossible without the voices, experience and commitment of our alumni. I thank you for your support. It is my firm belief that any vision for the College's future must evolve from a community-focused context, drawing on knowledge and insights from all corners. Your lived experience of the institution and its cherished traditions, and your investment in its ongoing excellence, are an invaluable resource for ensuring student success and well-being.

With the Spring term just begun, I encourage you to carry this spirit of renewal forward in your own connection and engagement with the College. Beyond returning to campus for Columbia Reunion 2023, Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3, there are many ways to stay involved and give back. The voices, energy and commitment of generations of alumni is one of the College's great strengths, and it will remain critical in the years ahead.

With respect,

Josef Sorett
Dean of Columbia College and the Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor
Vice President for Undergraduate Education
Professor of Religion and African American & African Diaspora Studies

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Around the Quads

EILEEN BARROSO

CLAIRE C. SHIPMAN '86, SIPA'94 was honored with the Alexander Hamilton Medal on November 17 at a black-tie dinner in Low Rotunda. Shipman, a journalist, author and public speaker with deep expertise in international relations, U.S. politics and women's leadership, is the second woman to be presented the Hamilton Medal in the 74 years since its inception. This year's event raised more than $600,000, which will benefit College students by supporting the Core Curriculum and financial aid.

At the dinner, left to right, were: Dean Josef Sorett, Shipman, President Lee C. Bollinger and Columbia College Alumni Association president Ted Schweitzer '91, LAW'94.

Columbia Giving Day

The 11th annual Giving Day, held on October 26, raised $29,999,683 for the University through 19,229 gifts. Columbia College led the way among the schools, with 1,868 contributions totaling $3,724,122.08. These gifts provide resources for the College's central priorities: financial aid, stipends for internships, the Core Curriculum and student life.

2023 John Jay Awards

The John Jay Awards Dinner, which celebrates alumni for their distinguished professional achievement, will be held on Wednesday, March 1. The 2023 honorees are **Anna Brockway '92,** co-founder and president, Chairish; **Alicia D. Guevara '94,** CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City; Dr. **Ashish K. Jha '92,** a national leader on public health and Covid-19 response; **Victor Lopez-Balboa '82,** vice-chairman, Global Financial Institutions Group in Global Banking & Markets, Goldman Sachs; and **Raymond Yu '89, SEAS'90,** president, Yuco Real Estate Co. and Yuco Management. For more information, go to college.columbia.edu/alumni.

……

Sherwin Award Recipients

The Gerald Sherwin Young Alumni Service Award, which honors individuals who have demonstrated exceptional service to the College's young alumni community, was presented to the 2022 recipients, **Julian Richardson '14, BUS'21, SIPA'21**

Left to right: Outgoing CCAA president Ted Schweitzer '91, LAW'94; honorees Richardson and Heinrich; and Dean Josef Sorett.

and **Andrew Heinrich '13,** at the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting on October 22.

Richardson, an investment banker at Credit Suisse, is president of the Columbia College Young Alumni Board, CCAA Executive Board, CCAA Mentorship Committee and CCAA Nominating Committee. Heinrich, the founder and president of Project Rousseau, is a Young Leaders Council board member, co-chair of the 10th Reunion Committee and a Class Agent. Both Richardson and Heinrich are active members of the Alumni Representative Committee and the Odyssey Mentoring Program.

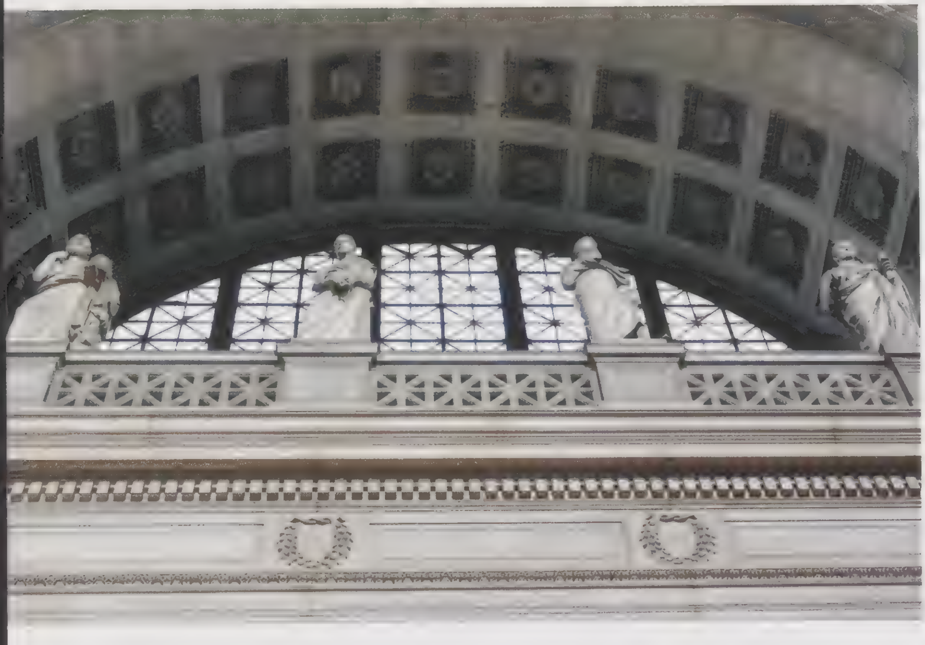
Four Lions Named Rhodes Scholars

One alumna and three College students have been awarded 2023 Rhodes Scholarships, which provide funding for two or three years of postgraduate study at Oxford. The honors this year are especially significant for Columbia; for the first time, three Lions were selected to be part of the U.S. cohort: **Ilina Logani '22, Sophie A. Bryant '23** and **Astrid Liden '23.** And **Gloria Charité '23** was awarded the scholarship for the East Africa constituency, making her the first Columbia recipient from the region.

Logani, an economics major; Bryant, a double major in East Asian language and cultures and mathematics; and Liden, a double major in Latin American and Caribbean studies and political science, are among 32 Americans chosen for the prestigious scholarship. The Rhodes for East Africa selects a single scholar each year; applicants come from Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, South Sudan and Burundi. Charité, who is majoring in psychology, came to the United States from a small village in Rwanda in 2019, when she was admitted to the College.

Clockwise from top left: Logani, Bryant, Charité and Liden.

"I am thrilled to see Ilina, Sophie, Astrid and Gloria recognized in this way," says Ariella Lang, associate dean of academic affairs and director of undergraduate research and fellowships. "They are part of an inspiring group of nominees and finalists. I want to recognize as well the faculty, advisors, staff members, alumni recipients of this award and many others who so generously supported, mentored and cheered on our applicants."



DidYouKnow?

Four Great Thinkers Reside in Low Library

Carved from Istrian marble, statues of (left to right) Euripedes, Demosthenes, Sophocles and Augustus Caesar stand watch over what was once Low Library's general reading room. The upper galleries are supported by 16 29-foot green granite columns, with space at the top of each for a statue. Only four were ever installed, however. Euripedes was gifted by architect Charles McKim, Demosthenes by W. Bayard Cutting CC 1869, Sophocles by George Wheelock CC 1864 and Augustus Caesar by F. Augustus Schermerhorn CC 1868.

BRIE MULLIGAN

Gregory J. Wawro

By Jill C. Shomer

Professor of political science Gregory J. Wawro has taught "The American Congress" to undergraduates since 1997; in nearly all that time, his lectures about the essentials of functional government and peaceful transitions of power were in the abstract. Until January 6, 2021.

"I never, ever, *ever* thought that I would have a concrete example to discuss the fundamental features of U.S. democracy being in danger," Wawro says. "To have the Capitol be the locus of a violent insurrection is so, so striking. And it's why I think it's so important for students to learn about the national legislature."

Wawro, whose research focus includes elections, campaign finance, judicial politics and political economy, joined the faculty in 1996 after completing his Ph.D. at Cornell. Raised in Pittsburgh, he attended Penn State with the intention of going to law school; by chance, his advisor was married to a poli sci professor who steered him away from pre-law. If Wawro were to change his mind about law school, she reasoned, a political science degree offered greater flexibility.

He started taking poli sci courses and quickly became hooked. The discipline was evolving away from qualitative, non-statistical methods for explaining political phenomena (such as studying individuals, events or contexts), toward a more quantitative approach — one that used surveys and numerical data to analyze concepts like political preferences or party identification.

Wawro was intrigued; then at Cornell, he fell in with associate professor Walter Mebane, who changed the course of his scholarship. "He is one of the most quantitatively talented political scientists in the field, and I realized, this is the kind of work I want to do," Wawro says. He emerged from grad school as a sort of hybrid scholar, he says; doing quantitative work with qualitative sensibilities. "And, luckily for me, Columbia thought I was a good fit for its brand of political science."

In October 2022, Wawro spearheaded the launch of a master's of science in political analytics, a partnership between the Department of Political Science and the School of Professional Studies. "There's a lot of bad analytics that happens in the political world," Wawro says. "And I thought, 'Columbia is well positioned to create a new kind of program that could train students to do better analytics.' We're working with great people who have a lot of interaction with the real political world — we're all really excited about it."

Because political science is currently the second largest College major (economics is number one), Wawro regularly interacts with large numbers of students. Asked what he enjoys most about teaching, he says, "It's observing when students realize how the tools of the discipline of political science can help them understand something they care deeply about — whether it be an election result, the passage or failure of landmark legislation, or a Supreme Court decision."

Wawro is the author of three books; the most recent is 2022's *Time Counts: Quantitative Analysis for Historical Social Science,* co-written with Ira Katznelson '66. Wawro is on leave this year and in the early stages of two projects related to social media and Congress. The first aims to determine to what degree platforms like Twitter might be making congressional elections more competitive; the other is analyzing how people use social media to communicate with and about their representatives (spoiler: not always very politely).

In addition to being expertly attuned to the rhythms of American politics, Wawro is an accomplished musician; he was formerly a drummer for the popular French-language rock band Nous Non Plus, performing under the pseudonym Harry Covert. (When he thought he'd go to law school, his intention was to pursue entertainment law and help other artists navigate the music industry.) He lived an exciting double life as his early years at the College overlapped with NNP mini-tours, but he says the two dovetailed nicely.

"It helped me make connections with more senior faculty who also had musical interests. And it buttressed what I was trying to do as a scholar." Wawro thinks for a moment, then says with a laugh: "I might be the only Columbia professor to appear in *The New Yorker* for both his musical exploits and his academic research."

ROAR, LION, ROAR

Megan Griffith '07 Gives Women's Basketball an Edge

By Alex Sachare '71

Sometimes you have to follow the bouncing ball.

As a senior, Megan Griffith '07 was on the fast track for a career in finance. The three-time captain of the basketball team and one of the best point guards in Columbia school history was checking all the appropriate boxes, majoring in economics and completing two summer internships at Lincoln Financial Group in Philadelphia, near her hometown of King of Prussia, Pa. But a conversation with a workout buddy, Dennis Stanton, who had played collegiately at Ursinus and professionally in Europe, caused Griffith to pivot.

"He told me, 'You should think about playing pro overseas,'" recalls Griffith, now head coach of the Columbia women's basketball team, which is coming off two highly successful seasons. "I didn't even know that was a possibility. At the time there weren't many women in the Ivy League who were doing it. But I did some research, looked into getting an agent and realized that I could go in that direction."

So upon graduation, instead of heading to Wall Street in New York or Center City in Philadelphia, Griffith was off to Finland to play basketball. Even though it was the first time she had traveled overseas, it wasn't long before she knew she had made the right decision.

"I realized the game was really important to me," she says. "I trusted the voice inside of me that was saying, 'Go do this.' It was my gut. That's how I operate. It's kind of all or nothing."

Griffith was team MVP of FoANice Basketball in 2008 and led Espoo Basket Team to the Finnish National Championship in 2009. After one more year of playing, this time in Denmark, Griffith returned to the United States and began six years at Princeton, two as director of basketball operations and four as assistant coach and recruiting coordinator.

In March 2016, Griffith was named the Lions' women's basketball coach. "During our initial interview with Megan, it was quite evident that she had a vision for what it would take for the women's program to succeed and ultimately compete for an Ivy League championship," says Athletics director Peter Pilling. "She displayed an understanding of the complexities of the task at hand and embraced the challenge."

And a challenge it was. Following the advent of coeducation, Columbia had begun women's basketball competition in 1984–85 at the Division III level, then joined the Ivy League and Division I two

BASKETBALL
BRYCE TODD

Among Griffith's goals for the 2022–23 Lions, who won 10 of their first 12 games, is the team's first Ivy League championship.

COURTESY COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

years later. During the next 30 seasons, under eight coaches, the Lions came away with only one winning record.

Griffith was unfazed, because she knew Columbia. "That's 75 percent why I took the job," she says. "It was a place where I knew I could be successful, and a place I really believed in. Also, I knew where the holes were in the program. I was not caught by surprise by anything."

Griffith drew on her background overseas and at Princeton in tackling the job at hand. "In Finland I learned how to win," she says. "I got to win a national championship and saw how to sustain winning and develop a winning culture, a winning mentality. At Princeton, I learned about the importance of work ethic, paying attention to details and being organized."

After three years laying a foundation and building Columbia's recruiting efforts, the Lions compiled a 17–10 record in 2020 and earned their first berth in the Ivy League's postseason tournament, which was canceled due to Covid-19. The following season also was wiped out due to the pandemic, but the Lions roared back in 2022 with the winningest record in program history, 25–7. After losing to Princeton in the championship game of the Ivy tournament, Columbia earned a trip to the postseason Women's National Invitation Tournament and beat Holy Cross, Old Dominion and Boston College before bowing to Seton Hall 78–75 in the quarterfinals, which were played before a raucous, sellout crowd of 2,072 at Schiller Court in Levien Gym.

"It was a unique feeling, really special," Griffith says of that atmosphere. "Even before the game, it was so loud you could hardly hear yourself think."

Griffith and the Lions are hopeful of building on their success in 2022–23, with a veteran team led by Abbey Hsu '24 and Kaitlyn Davis '23. They got started before the school year began with a trip to Spain and Morocco, where they competed against local teams in between sightseeing and bonding. "It was an amazing experience," says Griffith, "being able to start in August with this group, get everybody back together and enjoy something like that together."

Coaches often talk about changing a losing culture and building a winning program. What does that mean for Griffith?

For more on Griffith, check out the "Free Throws" Q&A at college.columbia.edu/cct.

"The best way to sum it up is not skipping steps in having a vision and bringing the right people with me, the right staff," she says. "Every success in my life was because I was able to find an edge, and here we have the Columbia EDGE, which stands for Energy, Discipline, Grit and Excellence. It's everywhere in our program: We wear it on our shirts, it's on the walls in our locker room. It's our why — why are we doing this?"

As the Lions go for their third straight winning season, Griffith says the approach remains consistent. "It's the same mission, the same standard. The goals haven't changed, but we're in a much different place from where we were even two years ago. We want to achieve and maintain a championship culture."

Alex Sachare '71 *has written, edited or contributed to more than 20 books about basketball.*

BAKAL

A Matter of Time

Feeling the crunch? **Cassie Mogilner Holmes '02** has the secret to happier days

By Alexis Boncy SOA'11

Illustrations by Scott Bakal

Cassie Mogilner Holmes '02 wants you to be happier.

Holmes admits that, despite this being the touchstone of her workday, "be happy" has the potential to sound, well, cheesy. The truth is anything but. Cheesiness suggests corniness or inauthenticity, a pursuit of cheap and easy feeling. Holmes, on the other hand, is genuine in her motivation and rigorously scientific in her approach. A professor of marketing and behavioral decision making, she has studied the role of time in cultivating happiness for more than a decade. She can say with empirical precision what leads to more fulfillment and, just as importantly, what doesn't. (Hint: Put down your phone.)

Three years ago Holmes launched a course on happiness and life design that quickly became one of the most popular at UCLA's Anderson School of Business. In it, she shares insights from her research and practical advice for better investing one's time. But the how-to aspect is only one facet of a deeper discussion about making time more meaningful. To that end, Holmes keeps the class relatively small; intimacy is key to encouraging honest conversation, she says, and her assignments take students to some emotional places. When deciding how to apportion your hours, it helps to wrestle with weighty ideas like defining your purpose, or to hear from an elder how they wish they'd spent their days.

By now, Holmes has taught the course long enough that her earliest students report lasting change to their perspectives. They speak with the zeal of the converted, sharing how they've introduced more happiness into their lives in ways small and large. One started taking his dog along on afternoon bike rides; another traded her pursuit of a VP title for a freelance life in France. They have saved their class notes, revisited them when stress creeps in, passed Holmes' advice along to family, friends, employees.

"People often have a bias when they think of business school — that it's students who want an education so they can make a lot of money as a CEO or other business leader," says Patricia Godefroy, Anderson's associate dean for marketing and communications. "But there has to be an orientation to something beyond just profit, and I think this course helps get at that. It's not only about helping students learn how to find happiness in their own lives; it's also aimed at building a mindset around supporting other people's happiness, and learning to value happiness, and a desire to help create that in a broader sense."

Indeed, while Holmes' influence may not yet have catalyzed a movement, it's hard not to wonder if we're looking at the next self-help star à la Brené Brown. (Though Brown focuses on vulnerability and shame, both are academics with a gift for translating their research into emotional wisdom for the rest of us.) Holmes certainly seems poised to make the leap: In September, she published her first book, *Happier Hour: How to Beat Distraction, Expand Your Time and Focus on What Matters Most.* Since then, she's been interviewed on shows like *Today* and *CBS Mornings* and made frequent stops on the audio circuit. She even joined Gwyneth Paltrow in November for a turn on The goop Podcast.

Holmes is coming into the spotlight at a time when many of us could use a little more happy in our lives. Before Covid-19, she says, she often had to explain why the pursuit of happiness merited everyday attention. But with the experience of the last few years, our collective need for an intervention — and to approach happiness with intention — has become all too apparent: The World Health Organization has reported that the global prevalence of anxiety and depression increased by 25 percent in the first year of the pandemic.

"Nobody takes our emotional well-being for granted anymore," Holmes says. "The pandemic has taught us that our lives are fragile and our time is finite, and everyone is trying to figure out, 'How do I invest the hours so that they feel more meaningful?'"

Cassie Mogilner Holmes '02

DIANA HENDERSON

Two to five hours. That's the sweet spot between having too little and too much time, according to Holmes' research. Less than that and we feel stressed ("time poor" is the term); more, and we risk running headlong into aimlessness — and not of the pleasantly-wandering-with-an-ice-cream-cone variety. "When we spend hours of our days with nothing to show for them, it undermines our sense of purpose and makes us less satisfied," Holmes says.

The California native has studied happiness since around 2008, having made the leap from an initial interest in choice satisfaction while doing a marketing Ph.D. at Stanford. But one especially tough experience on the time-poor end of the spectrum sharpened her focus. It was 2013, and Holmes was traveling from NYC to Philadelphia, where she was on the tenure track at the Wharton School of Business. She'd had a *day* — incidentally, spent at Columbia — filled with meetings and a presentation and dinner with colleagues, capped off by a rushed cab ride to make the last train of the night. At home, her husband and 4-month-old were waiting.

"I remember looking out the window as everything was passing by so fast, and thinking, *life* is passing by so fast," Holmes says. "Between the pressures of work, of wanting to be a good parent and partner, of wanting to be a good friend, of the never-ending pile of chores waiting for me at home, there was too much to do. And I didn't feel like there was enough time to do it, let alone to do any of it well, let alone to enjoy any of it along the way."

She considered the fantasy of quitting and moving with her family to a sunny, slow-paced island. But while most of us in that moment would shake it off and then get back to work, Holmes just got to work. As a social psychologist, she knew she had articulated a question that she and her collaborators could investigate: Are people with more free time happier?

Discovering the existence of that two-to-five-hour sweet spot suggested to Holmes that, for most people, more contentment was attainable — and the hours were already in hand. They just weren't being used in a way that produced overall positivity.

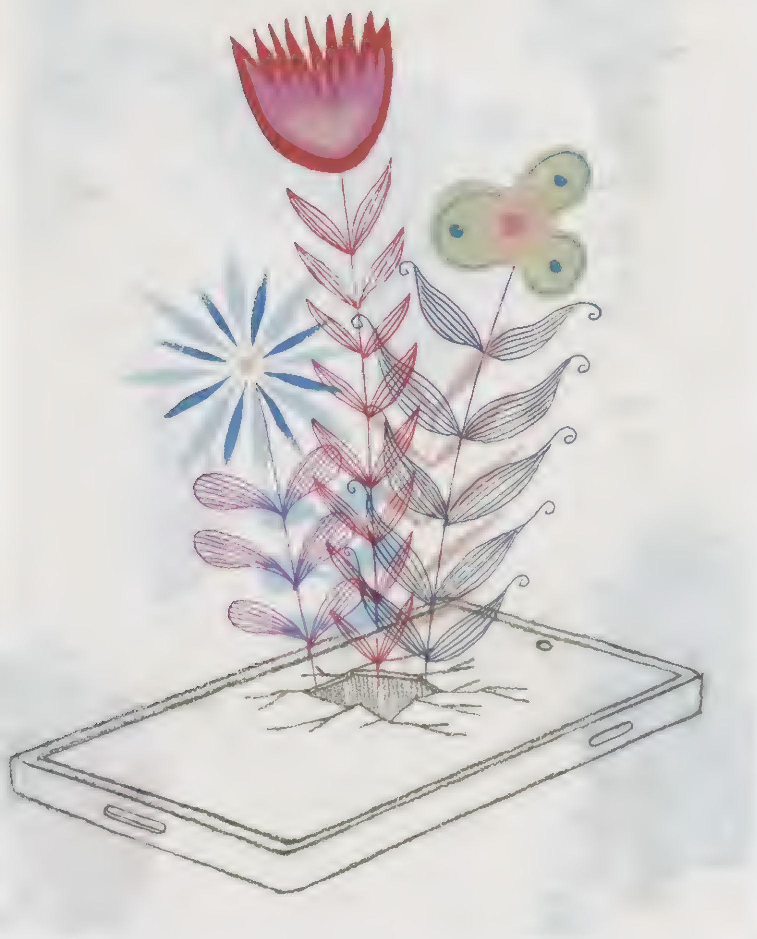
So how to change that?

Happily, Holmes has learned a lot about how to increase our feelings of satisfaction and time affluence. And bonus: When we feel like we have time to do everything we want to achieve, we are both more confident and more optimistic. Her exercises help people home in on the activities that inspire the most happiness in their lives (cultivating social connection is a universal); inject fun or bring meaning to the meh moments (transform a subway commute by reading); and recognize the benefits that come from spending time differently (get out in nature more, or consistently sleep seven hours a night).

Crucially, Holmes also addresses ways to improve the quality of our hours. This is where putting down our phones for a digital detox — to better connect with ourselves and the world around us — is highly recommended. She also walks right up to some uncomfortable truths, including the fact that our time is limited (gulp) in the largest, most mortal sense; there's even an assignment for calculating how many more times you might do a favorite activity. But reckoning with that reality leads us to protect time for the things that matter, as well as promotes a healthier appreciation for the everyday joys.

And about your purpose: "I know it sounds like such loaded idea," Holmes says, "but having that in mind helps you step away from general notions of what a good life is or what success is." In the "Five Whys Exercise," she encourages people to ask themselves why they do the work that they do, then consider the answer and ask why it's important, again and again, to drill down to their core motivation. "This way, it's about, what do I ultimately care about doing and accomplishing in my life? And that helps clarify which activities are in service of that goal, and which don't actually move you forward."

Full disclosure: In the course of reporting, I too became a Holmes believer. With her advice in mind, I tried treating my weekend like a vacation (yes, please, to a Bloody Mary at brunch). I "bundled" my least-favorite chore, folding laundry, with listening to music to make it more palatable (thank you, Bruce!). And I started putting my phone away for a few hours every night, from when my 6-year-old arrives home to when she goes to sleep.



Though each change in my routine delivered its own kind of mood boost, less phone time was the game changer. Without the device on the kitchen counter, tempting me to check email or send a text, I found my feet firmly planted in the present tense of my family's nightly routine. Fun or frustrating — and let's be real, those hours can be both — my mind was noticeably less scattered. I was really *with* my family. (When I giddily shared my story with Holmes, she noted the sizable role inattention plays in undermining uplift: "The research shows that we are distracted almost half the time, and that we are less happy when we are distracted.")

Speaking with Holmes' former students, I found myself wholeheartedly identifying with their enthusiasm. Pranav Joshi, the cyclist whose beagle joins him for rides, recalled his experience with the Five Whys, which put him in touch with how much he valued contributing to community; he also realized how much he missed the volunteering he'd done as a teenager. Last summer he took a job with the education nonprofit City Year: "When I go to work now, it feels less like work and more like I'm volunteering. I'm doing something that's kind and that I love," he says.

Erin Wood, a Starbucks district manager, says the lessons around sleep were the most critical. "It was always the first thing to go [when I was busy]," she says. "But you cannot make up for lost sleep; the damage to your health is already done." Instead of five or six hours a night — "exhausted the next morning, surviving on all the coffee I have at work" — she now makes sure she gets eight hours, even if it means an 8 p.m. bedtime. "My brain is more highly functioning, I'm in a better mood. It's one of the principles I teach my team," she adds. "They're leading other people, and if they aren't taking care of themselves, they can't show up and be their best."

For Ashley Caffey, a sales consultant at Bayer, the lessons had a cascading effect. "Going in, I felt like I was on a treadmill and moving for the sake of movement, without a real destination," she says. "I had an agenda of things to accomplish each day, but how was it relevant to my life? How did it align with my purpose? These were things I didn't understand or even give thought to for the most part."

It all culminated in what Caffey described as a "shift in my universe and my awareness." She confronted the fact that she hadn't been prioritizing family as much as she thought, and now she's more intentional about blocking off time for bonding with her kids and husband. She started scheduling it into a planner, a Holmes pro tip called "time crafting." "I highlight it with colors — pink for time with me and my daughter, green for me and my son, purple for the whole family," Caffey says. She laughs in an almost wondering way. The unspoken takeaway: "I can't believe I do this. But it works."

> "We can control how we invest our time and prioritize our time, and how we make time for the things that matter, **knowing the things that matter.**"

For many, Holmes herself is a leading source of inspiration. "She lets her own humanity and normalcy be very present," says Shelby Chambers, another former student and the one who moved to France for better work-life balance. "She was really rooted in her research, but also approachable and candid." In Holmes' book, as in the classroom, she uses examples from her own life to illustrate her research points. "She shares very personal stories," Wood says. "And she is so passionate about her work. When she speaks you hear it — in her voice, in the way she exhibits and demonstrates all the things that she's teaching."

Holmes does happen to be someone who falls on the cheerier side of the personality spectrum. In her book, she confesses that her nickname growing up was Little Miss Happiness; her colleague Godefroy describes her as "a blue sky." But Holmes emphasizes that there are three components to happiness, of which inherited disposition is only one part. A person's situational circumstances, such as income level or marital status, also has an impact (though less than you might think). The third part, meanwhile — which essentially makes all of Holmes' work possible — is intentional thought and behavior.

"I don't like using the word 'schedule,' because then you get into this experience of time management where it's all about efficiency," Holmes says. "But we can control how we invest our time and prioritize our time, and how we make time for the things that matter, *knowing* the things that matter. And also how we minimize the spending that feels wasteful and therefore un-fun."

The title of Holmes' book is deliberate, she adds. She is not promising happiness, full stop, a blissful state of being without down days or hardship. She is interested in making a difference of degree, to help people feel more joy and fulfillment than they might otherwise, and also to build their muscles so they have the capacity to get through the difficult times when resilience is required.

"We have a choice in how we spend our time and how we think about our time," Holmes says. "And *that* has a significant effect on happiness."

EMERGENCY
STOP

Aboard the *JOIDES Resolution* this past fall, Jerry McManus '89 removes veneer from a newly opened core to reveal sedimentary structure and colors; the latter begin to fade immediately upon exposure to air.

CELESTE PALLONE CC'19, GSAS'24

DRILLING DOWN

Jerry McManus '89, GSAS'97 is looking for answers to climate change at the bottom of the ocean

By Matthew Hutson

For most of October and November, Jerry McManus '89, GSAS'97 was on a cruise off the coast of Portugal, though not one you'd likely be envious of — even if you like cruises. McManus spent 12 hours a day, seven days a week, looking at thin slabs of brown and grey mud pulled up from the seafloor.

This wasn't just any mud, though. It was sediment deposited over millions of years and with a story to tell. As a paleoceanographer, McManus — chair of Columbia's Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences — studies the ancient ocean, in particular its relationship with the climate over timescales both long (millions of years) and short (thousands).

McManus was one of about two dozen scientists aboard the *JOIDES Resolution,* a 470-foot scientific drilling ship that travels the world as part of the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP). (JOIDES stands for Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling.) At select locations, the ship drills into the seafloor, pulling up cores — cylinders of soft sediment 10 meters long and a few inches in diameter. Once on board, the samples are sliced in half lengthwise and placed on tables for scientists to inspect for clues about what happened long ago. At a given spot, the drill can retrieve core after core, going a kilometer or more under the seafloor.

The researchers who joined this particular expedition — officially, IODP number 397 — were there to collect samples that will complete an archive of sediment going back three to five million years, through the geologic periods known as the Quaternary and the Pliocene. From that raw data, they will eventually be able to reconstruct the natural variability of the North Atlantic climate, which is to say, how the weather worked before humans came along to leave their mark. McManus is especially interested in the ocean's storage of carbon (it holds 50 times more than the atmosphere) as well as "the dynamics of how the ocean moves heat around our planet."

"The overarching question in my mind is: Does the ocean affect climate change on a wide spectrum of timescales?" McManus says. "And then within that, there are many specific questions: How fast does climate change? How fast does the ocean respond to that? What is the role of the ocean in heat transport? What's the ocean's role in storing carbon?" Answering these questions could shed light on climate change, but more fundamentally teach us about an evolving Earth.

McMANUS' CAREER in Earth science was not carved in stone, so to speak. Born and raised in the Bronx, he and eight of his nine siblings graduated from Bronx Science. "Which doesn't necessarily mean that we thought we'd be scientists, but I had some interest in science," he says. At the College he considered a major in comparative literature before focusing on the sea.

McManus owes his career in part to the late Wallace S. "Wally" Broecker '53, GSAS'58, a giant in geochemistry. McManus took a couple of his courses at the College, "and it opened my eyes to thinking about how Earth's climate system varied through time, and how the record of that was captured in the sedimentary and rock record of the earth," he says. Still, he recalls that Broecker was unimpressed by him. "He described me in his old-style language as a 'ne'er do well.'" McManus later did his Ph.D. with Broecker. "I told him, 'Ne'er say ne'er.'"

He credits Broecker for another awakening. "At one point, he told me, 'Someone like you can go to graduate school for free and get paid,'" McManus says. "And for a kid from the Bronx, this was a revelation. I didn't know that such a world existed. That wasn't about scientific inspiration. It was more about the realm of the possible in one's life."

Graduate school was not the next step, however. Instead, McManus spent a few years interning at a German optics company. He provided technical support to researchers who used its image-analysis equipment; then they'd continue with their project while he moved on to the next assignment. "And I got to thinking that I was on the wrong side of that interaction," McManus says. He returned to New York with the aim of going back to school and took a job at the American Museum of Natural History as he worked on applications.

McManus says he chose Columbia's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory over other renowned options such as the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and the Scripps Institute of Oceanography because it "was very strong in looking at the modern climate in the context of how Earth's climate has evolved through time. And those aspects trumped the appeal of oceanographic institutions for me."

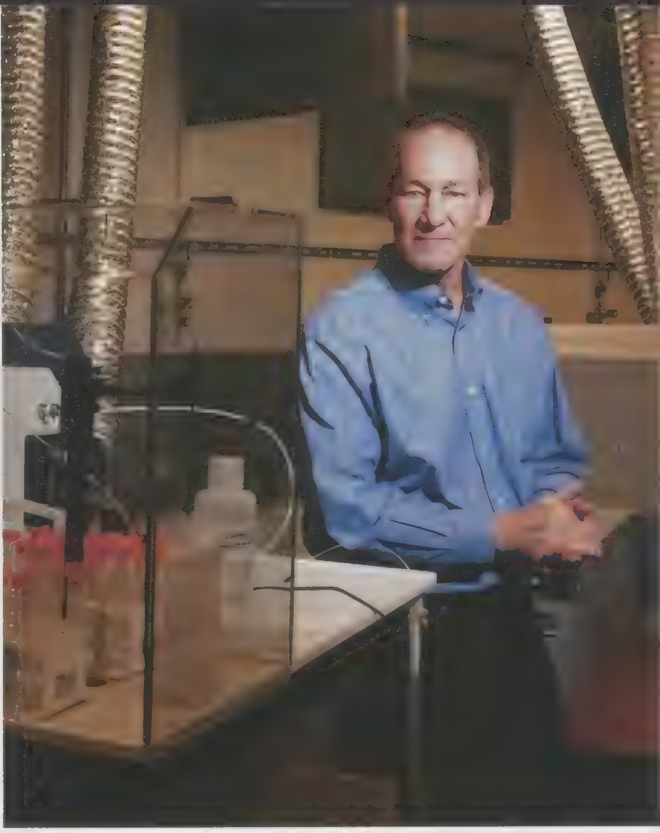
For his dissertation, McManus researched the last time that planetary temperatures were as warm as today — a period between ice ages that occurred about 120,000 years ago. He looked at seafloor fossils of single-celled organisms called foraminifera that live near the ocean's surface. Many foraminifera species have environmental preferences; McManus studied one that thrives in cold water. "Just using that one indicator, looking at how its relative abundance came and went at multiple locations in the North Atlantic, we could reconstruct patterns of climate change," he says.

CARLOS ALVAREZ

A barbecue meal was a weekly affair aboard the *JOIDES*.

McManus went to Woods Hole as a postdoctoral investigator before taking a job and staying for a decade. He taught some MIT students there, "but I kind of missed the intellectual diversity of a university," he says, "and I was interested in getting involved in undergraduate education." So he was happy when Columbia recruited him, and he returned to Lamont in 2008.

THE LAMONT-DOHERTY Earth Observatory, founded in 1949, sits on a donated family estate of 189 acres about 15 miles north of Manhattan. It's home to hundreds of researchers studying land, ocean and air. It also houses the Lamont-Doherty Core Repository, a collection of 20,000 seafloor samples, where I received a tour before McManus headed to Portugal. Large rooms hold racks of narrow 1.5-meter-long trays of dried sediment collected since the 1950s. For years, two ships, the *Vema* and the *Robert Conrad,* traveled the globe taking samples daily. Unlike the *JOIDES Resolution,* they'd lower a metal tube overboard, then use a piston to shoot it into the seafloor muck and pull up whatever it captured.


JORG MEYER

The Core Repository is not just a warehouse but also an active research center for scientists at Columbia and elsewhere. Each core is "this limited resource that brings the community together," says Brendan Reilly, head of the repository. "There's this core from this one location that we think is useful, then you get many people together working on it. Anyone with a valid scientific question is allowed to come here."

Reilly showed me some of the equipment on site. One instrument shoots gamma rays into cores to reveal their density. Another shows how much magnetizable material a core holds. An X-ray fluorescence scanner creates something like a fingerprint of a core's elements based on how it glows when hit with energy.

McManus and Celeste Pallone BC'19, GSAS'24, a graduate student who would accompany him on the cruise, took over the tour. Foraminifera shells are still central to McManus' work, and, upstairs from the Core Repository, they bring me to a microscopy lab where researchers use paintbrush bristles to place the grain-of-sand-sized shells under lenses.

Afterward, we walk to the shiny geochemistry building, completed just before McManus arrived as faculty and home to dozens of labs and offices. One room contains two large mass spectrometers, named Wallace and Gromit, that can differentiate not only elements from the cores but also isotopes. In a nearby clean room, staff must wear protective clothing to do their work of purifying samples. As Pallone heads back to Manhattan, McManus and I go to his office to discuss his upcoming trip.

The cruise's destination off Portugal is called the Shackleton site, after the late Sir Nicholas Shackleton, a paleoclimatologist who discovered that cores from the area could be aligned with ice cores from Greenland and Antarctica, allowing scientists to piece together global timelines for climate change. That's in part because waters from the north and south mix in the area, and in part because sediment collects there copiously, allowing for high-resolution study of its layers. Ice cores in Greenland and Antarctica go back only about 120,000 and 800,000 years, respectively, so alignment with those cores means researchers can use deeper sediment layers to infer what happened near the poles before that time. "Nick Shackleton did something really beautiful to align the North Atlantic with Antarctica," McManus says.

On the cruise, scientists took turns working 12-hour shifts, running initial analyses on the cores as they were brought onboard. Specialists looked at the samples' physical, acoustic or magnetic properties, or described their foraminifera. They drafted a report of the findings while still on the ship.

The data will, in part, help them explain short-term changes in the atmosphere that happened on a scale of 1,000 years or so, what's known as millennial climate variability. Many scientists point to the so-called Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC), a focus of McManus' work, as the reason for this variability. In his office at Lamont, he draws a diagram on the whiteboard: Picture a conveyor belt. Warm water in the Atlantic flows northward, where it cools and sinks, then spreads southward, where it eventually rises again. Changes in this circulation can affect global climate. Scientists worry that Greenland's melting glaciers could slow or halt the process.

While McManus' AMOC work might be his best known, Robert Anderson, a geochemist at Columbia, sees another area of his research as even more important. McManus has shown that Earth's abrupt climate changes tend to happen halfway between full ice age and interglacial periods. "The two discoveries are linked," Anderson says. Together they explain when and how such changes happen. "This has become a very hot topic," he adds. If the AMOC shut down today, it could chill Western Europe and perhaps the East Coast by 10 degrees Fahrenheit, which would be a "disaster."

CARLOS ALVAREZ

Scientists from France, Germany, China and the United States begin initial examination of a surprisingly colorful core recovered at the expedition's first drilling site.

McMANUS has been on about 10 sampling cruises, to the Pacific and Antarctic as well as the North Atlantic, spending more than a year of his life total at sea. He could theoretically have stayed at home and waited for core samples to come to him. But "the participants on the ship will have the first crack at it," he says. Beyond that, "I can contribute by being a more experienced voice and helping some of the junior scientists."

Kassandra Costa GSAS'18, a paleoceanographer at Woods Hole who earned her Ph.D. in McManus' lab and still collaborates with him, appreciated his guidance. While being supportive, he allowed freedom. "He gave me a project and then I sort of ran with it." As for his scientific style, Pallone says, "if he's exploring a hypothesis, he rules out every other possibility. He's encouraged me to be really sure about the claims that I'm making."

McManus has been on about 10 sampling cruises, to the Pacific, Antarctic and North Atlantic, spending more than a year of his life total at sea.

Anderson was a faculty member at Columbia when McManus was a student. "What I remember most is that he was fun to be around," Anderson says. "Whether talking about science in the lab, or when we used to play on the same basketball team. He was actually pretty aggressive on the basketball court." Anderson rethinks the word *aggressive*. "He pushes all the time. In everything, not just his research. Whether it's playing a sport or working on something. And also with his students."

Aside from ocean sediments, there's another kind of core that's important to McManus: the Core Curriculum. It didn't make him a scientist, he says, but "I did like the idea of learning about different aspects of civilization and culture and knowledge." He passes on the tradition. "Sometimes threads spring up that I remember from the Core, and I torture my students with them when they think they're there to learn about the ocean or the climate."

Humans, for better or worse, are now an integral part of the climate. "I spend all my time thinking about what happened in the past at this location at this time," McManus says, "but I don't forget that there's this bigger realm of the whole Earth and the life that it supports and the human role in that."

Matthew Hutson *is a freelance science writer in New York City and a contributing writer at* The New Yorker.

Expecto Stardom!

JOEL MEYERS '21 DEBUTS ON BROADWAY AS THE LEAD IN *HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD*

On November 15, Joel Meyers '21 stepped into the Broadway spotlight for the first time. Starring as Albus Potter in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child,* Meyers wasn't just making his own debut — he was also launching a new version of the sellout show.

The original *Cursed Child* was written as a two-parter — separate two-and-a-half-hour shows performed over two nights (or a doubleheader on Wednesdays) at the Lyric Theatre. When the play reopened in 2021 after more than a year of Covid-caused Broadway closures, it had been condensed to a one-night show. But behind the scenes, the script continued to be tinkered with, and it was finally ready in November, just in time for Meyers' debut. The revamped script features some additional magical moments and a few other surprises.

The runtime is nearly three and a half hours, making it the longest play currently on Broadway. For Meyers, who's in nearly every scene, each night is like a marathon: "I think of the show in terms of benchmarks," he says. "If I can do the one dance, I'm good. If I get through this spell, I'm good. And if I get through this trick, I'm good, you know?"

BY ANNE-RYAN SIRJU JRN'09

Landing the role is quite the accomplishment for a first-time Broadway gig; not only is Meyers performing hours of lines each night, but he is also pulling off a string of physically demanding feats throughout the show. However, he says it's all worth it for the audience reaction: "It's really fun when the tricks all go right and you hear the 'Whoa!' from the audience, or when they go, 'How do they do that?!'"

For more than 25 years, tens of millions of people around the world have been spellbound by the adventures of a boy wizard. Released in the United Kingdom in 1997, the first book in the Harry Potter franchise spawned a seven-book series, eight movies (more if you count the spinoffs) and legions of super fans who have grown up identifying with the series' themes of friendship, perseverance and the desire to belong. When *Cursed Child* opened in London's West End in 2016 it brought the story to a new generation — quite literally, as the sequel follows the children of the original series' main characters. The show came to Broadway in 2018.

As the play opens, Albus (Harry's second son) is lonely and struggling to fit in with his family and his fellow students at the famed Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. He quickly bonds with Scorpius Malfoy, the son of the antagonist of the original series, Draco Malfoy. He and Scorpius adjust to life at Hogwarts, but dark forces conspire against them and the two get pulled into a time-traveling adventure that crosses both their and their parents' timelines.

With dark wavy hair, glasses and an affable smile, Meyers definitely looks like he could be Harry Potter's son (described in the books as having unruly black hair, glasses that are often held together with tape, and bright eyes). In fact, the first step of the audition process was simply sending a photo to the casting agents; he quickly got a callback. But it was Meyers' talent on the stage that carried him through the demanding audition process and into the spotlight.

Meyers (right), in character as Albus Potter, in a magical scene from *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*.

MATTHEW MURPHY

A double major in theater and astrophysics, Meyers has never been one to shy away from difficulty. But taking on the role of Albus has posed a new kind of challenge. The show is magical, not just in the "theater is magic" sense but also in its over-the-top, incredible practical effects — objects and people fly across the stage, characters transform into other characters, and wands light up with spells and shoot real fire. (The Lyric Theatre actually closed in 2017 for a yearlong renovation in order to accommodate all the effects.) It's a physical, grueling show, and Meyers performs it eight times a week for an audience of nearly 2,000. "It's very humbling in a way, because you quickly become aware that this is an experience that not many people get to have so early in their careers," says Meyers. "I've just been trying to take in every moment."

Meyers grew up in Seattle and got into acting when he was 10; he and a cousin joined a local theater group, and he was hooked. It remained a hobby throughout his middle and high school years, and he balanced acting in local shows with soccer and academics. When it came time to look at colleges, Meyers knew he wanted to be in a city with acting opportunities, but didn't want to limit himself to one career possibility. At the College, he was able to pursue his varied interests in science and theater; among other shows, he performed with the King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo and Juliet*, and was the lead in the 124th Varsity Show. "I think the best actors I've worked with and met and read about all really embody the mentality that it's more than just getting on stage and doing it. It's also about being interested in the world," he says.

Balancing double majors wasn't easy (his senior thesis drew analogies between theories of acting and Einstein's theory of relativity), but Meyers says the experience made him a better actor. And yet when he spotted the open casting call for Albus, he almost didn't apply. Then he thought back to his thesis advisor, Barnard professor Gisela Cardenas, and the lessons she taught him about confidence. "I give her credit for reminding me to let *others* say no," he says. "I was about to tell myself no."

The audition process lasted nearly two months; Meyers had to submit a self-tape, then try out in what he jokingly calls a "not-dance dance callback," a test to see how well an actor can follow choreography. Even though *Cursed Child* doesn't have musical numbers, it still has fight scenes and magical sequences; the callback tested Meyers' ability to follow the moves.

Meyers (far right) waits with other characters on Platform 9 3/4 to catch the train to Hogwarts.

MATTHEW MURPHY

"Honestly, one of the hardest experiences of my life was that first hour-long callback with a bunch of actors, many of whom are Broadway-trained dancers," he says. "I struggled my way through that and went home, probably the most exhausted I have ever been. I sat on my couch and I thought, 'Well, my Broadway career just ended before it began.'"

Fortunately, the casting directors had a different assessment. Meyers was brought back for three more rounds, including a reading and movement audition where he was tasked with performing one of *Cursed Child*'s flying sequences. ("A bucket-list item come true," he says.) After one final audition in front of the producers, he got the news that he was cast as Albus in late September, surrounded by family on a visit home.

While the experience has been a whirlwind, it has also been deeply satisfying. "When I stop and think about what I want to do, it always comes back to acting. When you're not doing it, it's what you want to be doing," he says. "And whether you call that the acting bug, or something else, there is some truth to that. As I sit here now, I can't imagine wanting to do anything else."

Cardenas says of Meyers, "As a student, Joel was humble and playful, and worked very hard. The way he thinks is very exciting. He's going to bring his physicality to the role, and his sharp mind. Those eyes of his are always percolating with ideas."

Those percolating ideas also keep Meyers grounded as a small-business owner. He co-founded Hyperspace Tutors with his friend and fellow physics major Gabe Matos '21 in July 2021. Meyers teaches students from middle school through college in science and math; in fact, in December he was on the Columbia campus for a tutoring session on a Monday, his one day a week off from the show. "It's been really nice to have that totally separate focus and interest," he says of the side gig.

The Lyric Theatre holds a special place in Meyers' heart. Not only is it where he made his Broadway debut, but it's also where he saw his first Broadway show, *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark.* As an "absolutely 100 percent" Harry Potter fan growing up, playing Albus Potter in the theater that means so much to him has been a dream come true. "One of my cousins asked me what it's like doing the show every day, and I said, 'It's kind of like playing Harry Potter in the backyard, but with real fire,'" says Meyers.

"AS I SIT HERE NOW, I CAN'T IMAGINE WANTING TO DO ANYTHING ELSE."

JORG MEYER

Spice Up Your Life

By Anne-Ryan Sirju JRN'09

Michelle Tew '15 doesn't shy away from bringing "full-on" Malaysian flavor to U.S. audiences

A dorm room seems an unlikely place to launch a culinary empire, but for Michelle Tew '15, sharing food with classmates led to a lightbulb moment. As CEO and founder of the spice kit company Homiah, Tew has gone from cooking traditional Southeast Asian food for friends to bringing the flavors of her culture to customers across the United States.

When Tew arrived at the College from her native Malaysia, her bag was packed with spices for her favorite red curry recipe — she was worried that she wouldn't be able to source the right kinds of coriander, curry leaves or galangal in the States and knew she wanted a taste of home while far away. She had always loved to cook, having been inspired by her grandmother Nonie, who ran a cooking school in Penang that taught housewives regional Malaysian Nyonya home-cooking basics. Instructions for creating traditional dishes like noodle soups and different types of stews and curries filled Nonie's typed recipe book, which Tew grew up with. At Columbia, Tew recreated many of those meals, sharing Nyonya food and culture with classmates who had never tried it. The experience was eye opening.

"At first, with my grandmother's recipes — something that was very personal, maybe almost like a secret — I didn't think people would be interested," Tew says. "But then I realized that people were not only interested in it, they were celebrating it."

Now those recipes that were an early hit on campus are flying off the shelves after Homiah's nationwide launch in early 2022.

Nyonya culture is a melting pot. From the 14th to 17th centuries, Chinese settlers came to Southeast Asia and lived, intermarried and combined their traditions with locals, eventually forming the Nyonya culture. The food and art bring together influences from across the Southeast Asian region. "It's a unique and specific culture," says Tew.

The aromatic, spicy and deeply flavorful cuisine uses local herbs and spices while the dishes reflect the convergence of traditional Chinese, Malaysian and Indonesian cooking styles. In addition to the food, the Nyonya culture is known for its intricate batik art, examples of which can be seen on the Homiah spice kit packaging (Tew had a Malaysian artist create the design).

Homiah spice kits provide a base that's used to easily create Malaysian red curry, Indonesian rendang (similar to a stew) and Singaporean laksa (a noodle soup). The company also sells sambal (a chili-based condiment). The spices are packaged as pastes, rather than a dried mix; Tew says the ingredients, like torch flower ginger and galangal, taste better and more authentic when blended fresh. Just add a protein and vegetables of your choice to a Homiah paste, simmer with coconut milk and/or water, and just like that, anyone can have an authentic Nyonya meal with minimal effort.

Tew earned an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business and began her career in advertising, then moved to consulting. But building other people's brands didn't give her the satisfaction she was craving. "I came to a crossroads: Am I going to continue in corporate? Or, do I do the thing that I really wanted to do, which is to take my heritage — something that no one thought could be a career — and make that into something different?"

Homiah
MALAYSIAN CRISPY SAMBAL
Homiah
LAKSA
SPIC KIT
2 KITS PER POUCH
YOUR PROTEIN & VEGGIES, SIMMER & SERVE!

JORG MEYER

The idea of using her grandmother's recipes but turning them into quick, easy dinners for a younger generation on the go stuck out to her. "I thought, I believe that there's a need for this and that people are going to be receptive," she says. "I'll trust my gut and put it out to the public."

Tew and her friend and early business partner, May Hnin '15, BUS'23, started a Kickstarter to raise funds for their business on April 5, 2021 (the first iteration of Homiah also included Hnin's Burmese recipes, but Hnin took a different job before their official launch); the campaign took off, smashing their goal of $8,000 with 459 donors giving more than five times that amount.

"Food can create a deep sense of memory and form relationships."

With ample funding secured, Tew spent several months in Malaysia searching for a small family business to become her local producer. She visited wholesale markets to find ways to source fresh herbs in order to capture the authentic flavors she wanted; once production facilities were set up, she secured FDA approval. In spring 2022 the products began shipping to online customers and launched in U.S. stores. It has been a whirlwind since, with Homiah products now available in more than 20 locations nationwide.

Joanne Kwong '97, owner of New York City shopping institution Pearl River Mart, became an early mentor after seeing Tew and Hnin's Kickstarter announcement in *CCT*'s Class Notes. She met with Tew early on and later began stocking Homiah products. "At Pearl River, the stories behind the product are important," Kwong says. "And to hear Michelle's story about trying to preserve her grandmother's recipes and to do it in a way that works for her generation and generations after, that's what attracted me at first. When I met her and tried her products I realized they were also amazing."

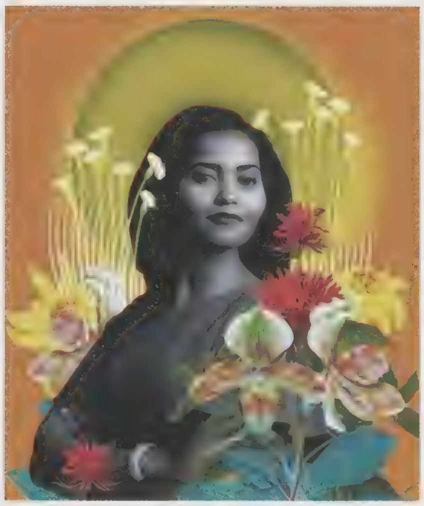
Kwong adds, "I like that Michelle didn't shy away from full-on spice, you know? She didn't water it down, which I was pleasantly surprised by. She made it legit."

For Tew, keeping it legit has always been the goal, even when adapting to challenges. When she moved to New York, she says she had to adjust her approach to cooking — seeing just chicken drumsticks or thighs packaged in grocery stores, rather than a whole chicken, was a novelty and meant adjusting some recipes. As Tew began cooking for classmates, she realized that as much as she loved sharing meals with friends, she also loved how her food could be adapted to fit in with other cultures. That experience inspired her to think outside the box on how the spice kits might be used, and she has welcomed creative twists on her products. The Homiah website features recipes for traditional dishes like Malaysia's national dish of *nasi lemak,* but also has recipes for fusion dishes like a rendang spaghetti and meatballs or a laksa risotto.

"There's no one right way to enjoy these flavors," Tew says. "In the same way that I want Americans to be inclusive of my culture, I want to be inclusive of how Americans might want to adapt the recipes."

In the Nyonya language, Homiah means "to live the good life." As her company takes off, Tew is seeing her grandmother's recipes have a momentous revival, embraced by customers halfway around the world.

"Food can create a deep sense of memory and form relationships," Tew says. "It can be the precursor to all these good things."


NATASHA CUNNINGHAM

Nicole Ellis '10, JRN'16

Women's Wisdom

Nicole Ellis '10, JRN'16's debut collection aims to inspire

Nicole Ellis '10, JRN'16's debut book was inspired by inspiration.

Ellis, a journalist and filmmaker who is the digital anchor for *PBS NewsHour,* found her focus for *We Go High: How 30 Women of Color Achieved Greatness Against All Odds* (DK, $19.99) when she considered the ways she had navigated challenges in her life and career. "I thought of the roadblocks I've hit and how I've self-soothed and persevered through them, and a lot of it came back to reading about other women of color," she says. "So I thought about this book through the lens of, 'How can I add value in the ways that so many of these women and authors have added value to my life?'"

Ellis considers *We Go High* as "self-help by proxy"; the collection includes encouraging life stories, motivational quotations and personal philosophies from role models such as Vice President Kamala Harris, actress Issa Rae, Olympic gymnast Simone Biles and, of course, former First Lady Michelle Obama, whose wisdom inspired the book's title. The profiles are accompanied by striking photo illustrations by Natasha Cunningham, who communicates a sense of growth by embellishing each portrait with flowers and natural elements.

By detailing how these women overcame obstacles, Ellis hopes to remind readers that they are not alone in the hills and valleys of their own lives. The book took more than a year to research and write, done in her free time from *NewsHour.* She wanted to represent a range of industries, skills, aspirations and lived experiences; while the emphasis for some pieces was clear because of the person's celebrity, Ellis needed to dig deeper with others to glean "that nugget of identification" for readers to connect with. "That reporting was the most fun part because I got to read so much," she says.

Ellis got hooked on storytelling at the College, and credits one seminal class — Pegi Vail's "Film and Culture" — with setting her on her path. "I thought it would be easy: just watching documentaries one night a week," Ellis says. "I ended up falling in love with the visuals and the exposure to different cultures." She became an anthropology major, and after graduation took two years to backpack solo around the world. While publishing a travel blog about her adventures, it occurred to her that a storyteller can shed light on lived experiences for others. That awareness eventually led her to enroll in the Journalism School.

"When I came back from my trip, I was maybe a little impatient with family and friends who hadn't had the experiences that I had had. And I didn't like that it was annoying me," she says. "I thought that by moving into journalism, I would be able to channel that energy into a sense of responsibility to guide other people's experience of different cultures, different perspectives or just absorbing new information."

Ellis joined *The Washington Post* in 2017, hosting, producing and directing original and breaking news videos that aired on the *Post*'s website. She was nominated for an Emmy for her coverage of Hurricane Harvey in 2018. Three years later, Ellis joined *NewsHour* as its first-ever lead anchor for digital video, which includes hosting pre- and post-shows and livestreams.

"My passion is being a chaperone for people so that they feel safe enough to learn something new," Ellis says. "It's why I became a journalist in the first place. Whether it's the nightly news, or learning about their bodies, about science, about gender, about identity, you name it — learning how people navigate a hurricane! I want to facilitate the kind of spaces that make my subjects feel comfortable."

Sharing the ways in which people weather hurricanes of all kinds is the work of *We Go High*. The profile of politician, lawyer and activist Stacey Abrams, excerpted here, is one Ellis felt especially connected to. Abrams believes that while it's important to grieve after you get knocked down, you should either harness the experience and those emotions to strategize how you intend to achieve your goal, or move on to something else.

"That one sticks out the most for me, because it's something I always have to remind myself when dealing with seemingly insurmountable mountains," Ellis says. "That how I advocate for myself as I move through the experience is integral."

She references the voting rights initiatives that rose from Abrams' lost gubernatorial race in 2018. "The takeaway of her story doesn't leave you at the conclusion of a personal or professional grieving process with just your feelings in your hands," she continues. "Taking action afterward can be the difference between living with something and living with a future outcome that feels even better than what you thought hurt so much at the time."

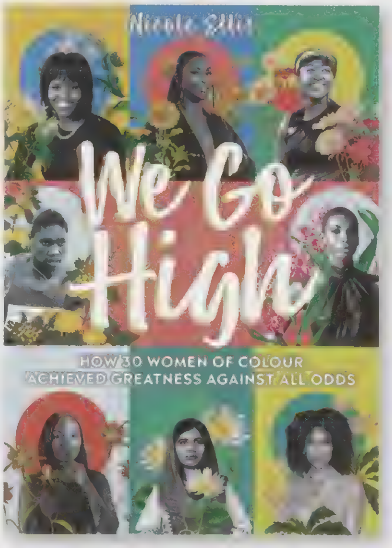
— Jill C. Shomer

Stacey Abrams

Creating strategy out of setbacks

On a breezy November night in Georgia, Stacey Abrams made her way across the stage in a purple blazer to a podium carrying a matching purple campaign poster with her name on it. The sign said: STACEY ABRAMS GOVERNOR.

Abrams' 2018 run for Governor of Georgia made her the first Black American woman to become a major-party gubernatorial nominee in the United States. Her loss was one of the most widely reported instances of voter suppression in American history. For others, this might have been the end of a career in politics. For Abrams, it marked the beginning of an even bigger mission to make sure every eligible adult in America is able to exercise their right to vote. Within two years she created the most influential initiative to fight voter suppression in the country and founded a coalition of nonprofits to register over a million Georgians to vote in elections for years to come.



Barriers & Bias

Like most women of color, Abrams is familiar with barriers to access. This was not even the first time Abrams had been held back when trying to reach the Governor's Mansion. When she was made the first Black valedictorian of her high school, Abrams and her family were invited to a dinner for the state's top students at the Governor's Mansion. The family traveled by bus, as they could not afford a car. Seeing this, a guard insisted they didn't belong at this private party. Her parents pushed back and the family were admitted. Abrams doesn't remember the party, meeting her fellow valedictorians, the governor, or anything else from that day except being turned away at the door.

From Struggle to Strategy

Abrams' recollection and response to being singled out in high school is one of many examples of how she processes adversity. She has felt the pain and trauma of being undervalued, overlooked, and excluded based on skin color, gender, and income. Once that initial sting subsides, she pivots to analyzing the problem, the contributing factors, and above all, herself to decide how to change it. In this case, it was to one day show the state, and the country, that she deserved to be at the Governor's Mansion by running for governor.

This hallmark trait of leveraging setbacks is laid bare in every aspect of her life, including money. One of six children growing up in a low-income household, Abrams frequently bore the responsibility of financially supporting her family. With little access to financial literacy or capital, Abrams still had $200,000 in debt during her gubernatorial run in 2018 — $50,000 in deferred taxes and $170,000 in credit card and student loan debt.

Abrams recognized she was not alone in this struggle, noting in an article for *Fortune:* "Debt is a millstone that weighs down more than three quarters of Americans ... It should not — and cannot — be a disqualification for ambition." Abrams first began taking on considerable debt to go to college and graduate school. The risk seemingly paid off when she landed her first job after graduating from Yale Law School. Her salary was $95,000, three times her parents' income combined. However, as Abrams began to pay off those debts, even bigger financial obligations emerged. Hurricane Katrina battered her parents' community, leaving Abrams to be the breadwinner and provider for her family again. Abrams' financial strain was exacerbated further when her parents became responsible for her brother's newborn daughter.

Rather than cast light away from her financial challenges, Abrams put them front and center in her campaign for governor, pointing out that race and gender play a major role in determining just how big of a financial disadvantage we're likely to face. Understanding the systemic nuances of how and why she found herself thousands of dollars in debt, Abrams used her platform to encourage financial literacy and advise others about what they can learn from her experiences.

Abrams' unrelenting dedication to deconstructing the barriers she experienced growing up led her to pursue a career in politics in 2006 as the State Representative for Georgia's 89th district. Growing up with Methodist pastors as parents, Abrams knew how to connect with congregations of all sorts, including policy makers and voters. She brought everything learned in church to the halls of the Georgia State Capitol — whittling big ideas and political jargon down to the basics of how policies affect the everyday lives of the people she represented. She was so skilled, her fellow representatives on both sides of the aisle would ask her to review their bills before presenting them.

In 2014, Abrams created the New Georgia Project, a voter registration program to make voting more accessible to people of color ahead of the senate election that same year. Abrams led the organization part-time while still holding office. The small but ambitious organization registered roughly 69,000 new voters in its first year.

In 2017, Abrams stepped down as minority leader to run for Governor. Her opponent, then-Secretary of State Brian Kemp, was in charge of voter registration. In July 2017, Kemp purged more than 500,000 voter registrations, the largest mass disenfranchisement in US history. Between 2012 and 2018, Kemp canceled 1.4 million voter registrations, using tactics that date back to American Jim Crow laws. In most elections, a winner is decided within 24 hours of election day. For Abrams, this process took ten days. She describes the days between the election and formally stepping out of the race as compounding stages of grief hitting her all at once. Voter suppression hotlines managed by her campaign and nonprofits banked over 80,000 calls from Georgians whose ballots were not counted, or whose names were purged from the voting rolls. "Until this election, I had never considered myself an angry person," Abrams would later write.

Propelling Pain

By the sixth day, still in the heat of a legal battle, Abrams again pivoted to analyze the root of the problem to decide what to do next. Still grieving, she decided to add another stage to the mourning process. It's called plotting. Some of us heal through a drawn-out grieving process that ends in acceptance. In Abrams' case, accepting defeat also meant accepting inequality. Plotting offered a new path where healing and making the difference you want to see in the world can make perceived failures integral to future successes. She grabbed the nearest legal pad and began to write out what would later become a coalition of organizations dedicated to ending voter suppression, disenfranchisement, and inequality. Abrams' newly reclaimed purpose made her path forward clearer than ever despite being in the midst of an unbearable loss.

On November 16, 2018, Abrams ascended the stage one last time as America's first female Black American gubernatorial candidate not to concede, but to announce the beginning of a mission to uphold a right her enslaved ancestors died fighting for: the right to vote.

Despite narrowly losing to Governor Kemp, Abrams received more votes than any Democrat in Georgia election history, including President Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton during their presidential campaigns. Abrams' run became an inflection point for voter turnout among Latinx, Asian, and Black American voters. That progress would serve a multitude of purposes through the creation of Fair Fight Action and Fair Fight PAC to tackle voter suppression, Fair Count to address the census and beyond, and the Southern Economic Advancement Project, and bolstering New Georgia Project's voter registration drives. For Abrams, winning a single election is not a victory; ensuring that every election is a true reflection of the will of the people is.

NATASHA CUNNINGHAM

Stacey Abrams

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alumni news

A CHILLY CHAPEL VIEW

A light dusting of snow on St. Paul's and College Walk makes for frosty fun on campus. From snowball fights to sledding on Low Steps, the Columbia community stays active in the winter months no matter the forecast!

COLIN SULLIVAN '11

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Philadelphia news icon Jim Gardner '70 retires after 45 years in the anchor chair.

Closing a CCAA Chapter

By Ted Schweitzer '91, LAW'94

Bittersweetly, I pen my last letter to you as president of the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA). The last three years have flown; I became president just months before the Covid-19 pandemic changed all our lives. And while it upended my expectations for the role, it was incredibly rewarding to see our community come together and find new ways to connect despite the distance. I'm proud of our work during this time and look forward to seeing how the College's next chapter unfolds under Dean Josef Sorett. I've been privileged to work with him in these early months of his tenure, and am excited about his leadership in the years ahead.

As I write, my successor, Sherri Pancer Wolf '90, is set to begin in the role on January 1; more on her background follows, but first, I share exciting news of two recent events.

First, the College community delivered another fantastic and generous performance on Columbia Giving Day on October 26: The College received nearly 1,900 gifts totaling $3.72 million! The vast majority were from alumni, but we also received donations from students, parents and friends. These monies will sustain financial aid, the Core Curriculum and a plethora of opportunities beyond the classroom. Thank you to all who participated.

Second, on November 17, the 2022 Alexander Hamilton Medal was presented to Claire C. Shipman '86, SIPA'94. The dinner in her honor, held in Low Rotunda, was warm and festive despite frigid weather. Beyond being a stalwart Columbian, Claire is a trailblazer in the field of television journalism. She has made a lasting mark on the world, writing the first draft of history through firsthand reporting on monumental geopolitical events. We eagerly anticipate the publication in June of her next book, *The Power Code: More Joy. Less Ego. Maximum Impact for Women (and Everyone)*, in which she explores and explains the nature of women's power.

I also want to mention the work of three CCAA committees that I'm particularly proud of; I encourage you to participate.

- **The Homecoming and Reunions Committee** strives to ensure these marquee events meet their full potential in bringing alumni back to Columbia for fun and fulfilling experiences that lead to long-term engagement. Alumni on this committee are able to implement their ideas, working closely with Alumni Relations, Athletics, and other staff and administrators. The committee's goal, among other things, is to design programming to engage and attract the widest possible alumni participation.
- **The Mentoring Committee** facilitates connections among alumni as well as between alumni and current College students, primarily through the Odyssey Mentoring Program. Ideally, every student and alum can participate in the network for lifelong development.
- **Class Agents** solicit donations for the College Fund, which provides critical current-use resources with a focus on financial aid, the Core Curriculum, student life and internships.

EILEEN BARROSO

Schweitzer (left) at Homecoming with Mila Atmos '96, SIPA'05; Alisa Amarosa Wood '01, BUS'08; and Michael Behringer '89.

All alumni are encouraged to volunteer, whether for the committees mentioned or any of the many other available opportunities. Please reach out to Thandiwe Jarrett-Abdulali, director, Alumni Relations, for more information: ccalumni@columbia.edu.

The CCAA also has two esteemed faculty members on its Board of Directors: Virginia W. Cornish '91, the Helena Rubinstein Professor of Chemistry, and Noam M. Elcott '00, a former chair of Art Humanities who teaches in the Department of Art History and Archaeology. You will hear more later this year about efforts to strengthen the CCAA's relationship with Columbia's professors.

Returning to the subject of our next president, the CCAA is thrilled to welcome Sherri, who has sat on the Board of Directors since 2006. She has been on almost every volunteer committee; some of her most notable roles have been as a founding member of the Alumnae Legacy Circle, as president of the Columbia College Women Board of Directors and as a co-chair for the Columbia College Fund. She was presented a Columbia Alumni Medal in 2017. Sherri earned a B.A. in economics and, in 1994, an M.S. in finance from MIT's Sloan School of Management. She lives in Boston with her husband, Doug Wolf '88 (a CCAA president emeritus). They have three children: Stephanie, Alexandra '21 and Jason '24.

Sherri enjoys a distinguished career in finance, technology and entrepreneurship. We are delighted she has committed to the role of president and know she is the best person for it.

I look forward to seeing you soon at an alumni gathering, maybe the John Jay Awards Dinner in March, Class Day in May or Columbia Reunion in June.

I leave you with this: With the world full of geopolitical turmoil and ignominious scapegoating of vulnerable groups, we as a community must stand up and ward off injustice wherever we see it.

Roar, Lion, Roar!

*book*shelf

Memories of a Gay Catholic Boyhood
ONE RIVALRY, TWO GOATS AND THE ERA THAT REMADE THE WORLD'S GAME
MESSI VS RONALDO
JOSHUA ROBINSON
JONATHAN CLEGG
BAD JEWS
A HISTORY OF AMERICAN JEWISH POLITICS AND IDENTITIES
EMILY TAMKIN

When Michaels Met the Unusual: The Perfect Couple *by Dr. James Marsh Sternberg '58.* Sternberg, a champion bridge player and instructor, describes the Michaels Cuebid and the Unusual Notrump, the most popular two-suited bridge hands (AuthorHouse, $17.99).

Hidden Maryland: In Search of America in Miniature *by Eugene L. Meyer '64.* An illustrated guide of the Free State's various regions, with profiles of famous Marylanders (independently published, $27.78).

Witness 2017–2020 *by Hilton Obenzinger '69.* Obenzinger's poetry collection chronicles four years of trouble in America (Irene Weinberger Books, $16.95).

Memories of a Gay Catholic Boyhood: Coming of Age in the Sixties *by John D'Emilio '70.* A memoir of D'Emilio's life, from a working-class Bronx childhood to becoming a pioneer in the field of LGBTQ history (Duke University Press Books, $29.95).

The Mysterious Romance of Murder: Crime, Detection, and the Spirit of Noir *by David Lehman '70.* Lehman explores a variety of outstanding noir films and books, from the famous (*The Maltese Falcon*, *Double Indemnity*) to the lesser known (Cornell University Press, $26.83).

Our Unfinished March: The Violent Past and Imperiled Future of the Vote — A History, A Crisis, A Plan *by Eric H. Holder Jr. '73 with Sam Koppelman.* The former attorney general charts the history of voter discrimination and argues for new protective measures (One World, $28).

SUBMIT YOUR BOOK TO CCT

Alums! Have you written a book in the last year? Tell us about it!

college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_bookshelf

Late Life *by Stephen Ackerman '79.* This debut poetry collection from Ackerman, a retired attorney for the New York City Law Department, is described as "21st-century love poems for grown-ups" (Silverfish Review Press, $18).

Ever After: Forty Years of Musical Theater and Beyond 1977–2020 *by Barry Singer '79.* Originally published in 2003 as a history of the previous 25 years in musical theater on and off Broadway, this new edition extends the narrative from 2004 to the recent present (Applause, $37.95).

Habsburg Madrid: Architecture and the Spanish Monarchy *by Jesús Escobar '89.* Escobar, a professor of art history at Northwestern, argues that the buildings of Madrid tell a different story about the 17th-century Habsburg dynasty (Penn State University Press, $102.35).

A Vision Splendid: The Discourses of David O. McKay *by Anne-Marie Wright Lampropoulous '89.* Speeches by McKay, a former president and apostle of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, are compiled and analyzed in categories including dedications, sermons and civic addresses (Greg Kofford, $22.95).

Panes of the Glass Ceiling: The Unspoken Beliefs Behind the Law's Failure to Help Women Achieve Professional Parity *by Kerri Lynn Stone '97.* Stone reframes the discourse about the "glass ceiling" that women face with respect to workplace inequality (Cambridge University Press, $34.99).

From Bureaucracy to Bullets: Extreme Domicide and the Right to Home *by Bree Akesson '01 and Andrew Basso.* The authors focus on domicide, or the violent, intentional destruction of a home, as an overlooked human rights issue (Rutgers University Press, $38.95).

Messi vs. Ronaldo: One Rivalry, Two GOATs and the Era That Remade the World's Game *by Joshua Robinson '08 and Jonathan Clegg.* How the rivalry between two of the world's greatest soccer players has grown from a personal competition to a multi-billion-dollar industry (Mariner Books, $29.99).

The Monsoon Diaries: A Doctor's Journey of Hope and Healing from the ER Frontlines to the Far Reaches of the World *by Dr. Calvin D. Sun '08.* Sun's account of working in the epicenter of the Covid-19 pandemic is interspersed with reflections on his global travels (Harper Horizon, $27.99).

Hacking Artificial Intelligence: A Leader's Guide from Deepfakes to Breaking Deep Learning *by Davey Gibian '12.* AI is transforming the world but is vulnerable to hacking; Gibian sheds light on hacking risks and provides a framework to assess them before problems arise (Rowan & Littlefield Publishers, $33.48).

Bad Jews: A History of American Jewish Politics and Identities *by Emily Tamkin '12.* Drawing on more than 150 interviews, Tamkin, a senior editor at *The New Statesman*, tracks the evolution of Jewishness throughout American history (Harper, $28.09).

— Jill C. Shomer

lions

By Anne-Ryan Sirju JRN'09

Rebecca Sheir '99

You might know the stories *Cinderella* and *Jack and the Beanstalk,* but what about the Turkish tale of *The Unwelcome Guest*? For author and producer **Rebecca Sheir '99,** the more obscure the story, the better. Sheir and her husband, composer Eric Shimelonis, co-produce Circle Round — a children's storytelling podcast distributed by WBUR, Boston's NPR station — which turns folktales from around the world into radio plays. "I'm constantly trying to find stories that aren't as well known outside of their home country or culture," says Sheir. "You're not going to hear *The Three Little Pigs* or *Little Red Riding Hood* on Circle Round; you're going to hear a Nigerian fable about where thunder and lightning come from, or a Korean story about why dogs and cats don't get along."

Sheir was a host and reporter at a number of NPR member stations before she and her husband decided to move to Western Massachusetts to start an audio production company. In 2016, WBUR reached out to her about starting a kid-focused podcast; Sheir then came up with the idea to retell folktales as old-fashioned radio plays. She created a pilot featuring a Yiddish story she'd heard as a child from her rabbi (*Seinfeld*'s Jason Alexander voiced the lead). WBUR loved the pitch; the series officially launched in 2017 and is now in its sixth season with more than 180 episodes.

Sheir focuses on finding a breadth of stories — recent episodes have highlighted tales from Armenia, Finland and the Cherokee Nation — and in 2022 she partnered with a Massachusetts publishing company to produce books based on some of her favorite episodes. The first book was released last summer and two more quickly followed; the fourth will be released this year.

Charles Morrow '62

For many people, background noise just fades away; for **Charles Morrow '62,** it's the star of the show. As the founder of MorrowSound, he creates soundscapes that use ambient tones to create a sense of atmosphere in locations from banks to museums to hospitals.

Morrow's dozens of installations include the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History's 2017 narwhal exhibition, where he immersed audiences in the Arctic via the sounds of glacial movements, melting ice, whale calls and whipping winds. At Ohio's Nationwide Children's Hospital, Morrow put together an audio background for the hospital's Magic Forest and Aviary play area, with whimsical birdsong, rustling leaves and animal noises.

Morrow's long career has always celebrated sound. In his early post-College days he arranged music for bands and performed in concerts (his favorite instrument to play is the pocket trumpet), but he wanted more than what he saw as a staid concert hall life. In the early '70s, he was hired by the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to stage an event in Central Park for the summer solstice. The experience was a revelation: "When you're in a concert hall, you are basically working with a *tabula rasa* kind of quiet space, in which everything that's being performed is intended to be heard, as opposed to moving into a location where the sound is part of what's going on," he says. "If you're immersed in the space, you can react to people; you can move smoothly between different forms of interaction."

Morrow's summer solstice show was a success, and continued for more than a decade; he began experimenting even more with sound and space. In 1974, he received widespread publicity for his "concert for fish," in which he and a friend set up underwater speakers and a microphone to broadcast marine sounds into Little Neck Bay. In the '90s he developed the True3D speaker system, to surround audiences with sound, and he began creating the large-scale soundscapes MorrowSound is known for. Most recently, Morrow has launched a podcast, iMMERSE!, in which he interviews colleagues working and innovating in the soundscape industry — a natural fit for someone whose entire life has been dedicated to the art of sound.

Gerrard Bushell '83

On September 8, New York business leaders and politicians gathered in Queens to kick off a massive undertaking: the groundbreaking of a new international terminal for JFK International Airport. "It was just joy, there was excitement," says **Gerrard Bushell '83.** "It was a hard-earned achievement, considering that [when we started the project] we were building an international-only terminal at a time when international borders were shut down."

As president and CEO of The New Terminal One at JFK, Bushell understands how an airport can shape a city. He has embarked on a journey to bring new jobs to Queens and create an unparalleled welcome to New York City for passengers arriving from international destinations.

Planning for the terminal began in 2019, but the project was delayed by Covid-19. The September ceremony marked not only the beginning of construction, but also what felt like the beginning of a return to normalcy. For Bushell, celebrating and supporting the local community is a major goal, both during construction (which will create roughly 6,000 jobs) and in the longer term. Once the terminal opens, he says, it will create thousands of opportunities, with at least 30 percent of jobs coming from minority- or women-owned business enterprises and with a goal of 40 percent workforce participation from local ZIP codes. "There's no divide between the terminal and the community," he says, "as opposed to, 'Here's this shiny new object that the community does not benefit from.'"

Bushell is also passionate about what The New Terminal One at JFK will mean for NYC as a whole. "This is *the* global city," he says. "When you really think about the history of the United States, coming through New York City has always been the front door. Now here we are coming into Queens, getting this richness, this diversity that is so prevalent. It's an incredible opportunity."

The New Terminal One at JFK is scheduled to open in 2026.

Illustrations by Maksymilian Nosevich

Jeff Petriello '09

Jeff Petriello '09 was at a drag show when inspiration struck. His friend Rob Truglia performed a Q&A to determine audience members' pasta-personality types, assigning each person a noodle he felt expressed their spirit. As a Tarot reader, Petriello instantly imagined the possibilities pasta could have in a deck. A linguine sword? An orecchiette cup? Why not combine his interest in Tarot with his pride in his Italian-American heritage? And because the idea was born at a drag show, he wanted the deck to also portray a diverse representation of gender and sexuality. Thus, The Pasta Tarot was born.

Petriello and Truglia reached out to artist Lindsay Mound, and the trio worked to design a new type of Tarot: one that celebrated the co-founders' queer identities and Italian-American heritage while staying true to the substance of the cards. In October 2021 they launched a Kickstarter for The Pasta Tarot, hoping to raise $29,000 to produce the deck on a large scale. They quickly surpassed their goal, raising more than $45,000 from an audience that was hungry for a modern Tarot interpretation.

The four traditional Tarot suits — wands, cups, swords and pentacles — are deliciously reinterpreted as corta (short pasta), ripiena (stuffed pasta), lunga (long pasta) and minuta (tiny pasta), and the illustrations portray the diversity of the human experience. "This deck is such a joyful expression of our unique identities," Petriello says. "It's something that I never had access to when I was growing up. So it's become a beautiful, culturally significant thing to me."

Clarkson Potter, an imprint of Penguin Random House, acquired the rights to the deck; The Pasta Tarot became available in stores and through major online retailers in December. Says Petriello, "I imagine myself as the teen Tarot reader and how much it would have meant to me to see not only the culture that I was growing up in, but also my identity, reflected in a deck."

*class*notes

MICHAEL EDMONSON '20

Lights on College Walk keep spirits bright all winter long.

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1945–53

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Dr. **Lawrence S. Ross '45**, PS'51, of Voorhees, N.J., sent a wonderful note: "I applied to Columbia in 1943 at the recommendation of my high school advisor, with no knowledge of which schools were the most prestigious and largely because I could commute from Hempstead, N.Y. I was 16 and had an easy time in high school. It was not until I was admitted and began my studies that I learned, most happily, that Columbia was one of the finest colleges in the nation.

"WWII was at its peak and we were on a trimester schedule: almost no holidays; six days a week; 18–20 credits per semester; and, for many of us, a three-to-four-hour round-trip commute! I decided to join the yearbook staff to do relevant illustrations, and *Jester* for my cover art and cartoons. I enjoyed acting, so I joined the *Varsity Show* (with some lead parts) and found time to 'paint the flats' for the scenery.

"I wanted to get my A.B. before I went into the service, so college was but a two-year affair. This made my cohort's and my program quite heavy, and I found myself struggling for the first time in my young life to keep pace with the immense workload. I slept on the trains while I dreamed I was reading.

"At most, I garnered four to five hours of bed sleep per night, when there weren't exams. I don't know how I managed to maintain a B+ average while working weekends for spending cash, and doing gardening for my mother. Still, it toughened me for the future ahead!

"Although the tight schedule and commuting minimized the opportunity to get to know many of my classmates, I was fortunate in my friendships with **Fritz Stern '46**, GSAS'53 (future star of the history department) and **Paul Marks '46**, PS'49 (future head of Memorial Sloan Kettering).

"The College made me a 'good candidate' for med school upon return from the infantry, where my stint as a Columbia yearbook associate editor gave me entrée to the Eighth Army Headquarters Public Relations Office. There, I wrote articles, becoming head of the News Department. I handled publicity for its surgeon general, who wrote my recommendation to medical schools.

"My esteemed degree from the College got me into P&S after the war, and that carried me to pediatrics training at New York Hospital

Cornell, 14 years of successful private practice and then another residency at Cornell-NYH in the burgeoning intellectual field of radiology. My life was replete with many years of further reward in that specialty on Long Island and in Florida, before my retirement in 1997.

"I spent my fulfilled years with the lessons learned in the Core Curriculum and my campus activities enriching my opportunities and perspectives in a lifetime of physician practice, fine artistry, traveling the globe with my beautiful wife, Marilyn (lost to cancer in 2003), raising my accomplished boys and now enjoying the warmth of my partner, June, my grandchildren and my new great-grandchild.

"My Columbia experience was a lifelong gift for me. I am grateful that my son David '80 and now his son Benjamin '26 likewise share in this Columbia exceptionalism still echoing in the Hudson Valley and beyond!"

Please share your news, updates, and College memories and stories with us for inclusion in a future issue. You may email us at the address at the top of the column, or use our webforms to send us a Class Note (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note) or a photo (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo).

1954

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

CCT is sad to announce the September 26, 2022, passing of class correspondent **Bernd Brecher** JRN'55, who had written this column since 2014. He will be deeply missed.

We also learned of the December 23, 2021, death of **Donald Elliott** and the November 18, 2022, death of **Stanley Friedman.** Our condolences to their family and friends.

Bob Viarengo BUS'58 writes, "On the occasion of my 90th birthday, I thought I would check in. Few of us are left. My last three very close friends from Columbia, **Bob Ambrose, John Timoney** and **John Lees,** died in recent years.

"After a successful career as a group president at Honeywell, my wife, Del, and I retired to a small village in western Massachusetts. Del and I have now been married for 67 years. There I have rebuilt the stone walls around our 243-year old home and have written, mostly for friends and family, eight books of essays and 12 travel books.

"The son of immigrants, I only discovered during freshman week that there was an Ivy League and that Columbia was part of it. Despite my best efforts and mostly because of the Core Curriculum, I received a basic grounding that I was able to build on as I matured. After my Air Force service, anxious to provide for my wife and first child, I earned an M.B.A. at Columbia and in subsequent years was able to expand my knowledge in many areas that had been *terra incognita* before my Columbia years.

"It has been a wonderful journey."

Arnold Tolkin writes, "I will turn 90 and I am still actively selling travel, particularly cruises. For 2023 I've already surpassed more than $1 million in volume, but it keeps me busy, occupied and healthy. We are going to celebrate my 90th birthday by gathering my entire clan, 42 of us. My wife, Barbara, and I now have quite a few great-grandchildren, a mix of girls and boys. Teddi Morrow Tolkin arrived in October at 6 pounds. She is beautiful. A little cruise in honor of my birthday was to be during Thanksgiving, and the family has a great deal to be thankful for this year.

"This year my wife and I will be married for 70 years, and we both fondly remember those wonderful Saturdays at the John Jay Lions Den in the '50s when the entertainment was the likes of Edith Piaf. That was dancing with the stars.

"My great-grandchildren are Elizabeth, Alexandra and Isaac Tolkin, whose dad is a graduate of the College and the Business School; Rylee, Zoey, Pierce and Teddi Tolkin; Mia and Jordan Miller, whose mom and dad were graduates of the Business School; Henry and James Tolkin; and Charlotte, Caitlin and Jack Tolkin, whose mom graduated from Columbia with a master's. All are potential Columbia or Barnard graduates. I may not live to see it, but will definitely know it."

This column will continue collect your news and memories; please do write in. Your classmates want to hear from you! Please send your updates to us directly at cct@columbia.edu.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
HN	Institute of Human Nutrition
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
PS	College of Physicians and Surgeons
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary

1955

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

We heard from five alumni for this issue. Read on for their notes!

Gordon Silverman SEAS'56, SEAS'57 writes: "The Silverman family has a long history with Columbia: first, brother Burton Silverman '49, then me, then my daughter, Nomi Silverman BC'81 and then my son, Mark Silverman SEAS'83.

"In the ensuing 67 years since I left CC, I spent significant time at Rockefeller University (21 years) and Manhattan College (23 years, department chair, interim dean of engineering). I now keep myself alert with ongoing publishing, (co-author of *Cognitive Science: An Introduction to the Study of Mind,* fourth edition), as an Alumni Representative Committee participant and with the Odyssey Mentoring Program. I have been enlisted to teach a graduate course, 'Artificial Intelligence,' at Manhattan College. I am a grant

Send Us Your News!

If you don't see a column for your class, it means we have not heard from you or your classmates. You can change that! Please share news, updates, and College memories and stories with us for inclusion in a future issue. Email us at cct@columbia.edu, or use our webforms to send us a Class Note (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note) or a photo (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo). We hope to hear from you!

consultant to the National Science Foundation. Columbia was a springboard to a complex world and I owe it my undying appreciation."

Dr. **Allen I. Hyman** writes, "I was honored to give the Emeritus Professors in Columbia annual speech on October 18. Go to YouTube for more: bit.ly/3VkmOLk."

Stanley Corngold writes: "At Princeton, where I am an emeritus professor of German and comparative literature, I have been lecturing on the subject of my recently published books: *The Mind in Exile: Thomas Mann in Princeton* and *Weimar in Princeton: Thomas Mann and the Kahler Circle.* A new book is in press: *Expeditions to Kafka in a Variety of Lights.* My wife, Regine (neé Üllner), an accomplished photographer, is preparing a volume of portraits that juxtaposes the faces of women who are alive with those of women who are long dead or preserved in paintings and sculpture.

"I recently delivered a paean of praise to my brother, Noel Robert David Corngold '50, who passed away last January. Noel was a physicist of considerable renown at Caltech, where this tribute to his life and work took place.

"I would be very glad to hear from classmates."

Costas Katsigris BUS'56, Professor Emeritus, Food and Hospitality, at Dallas College, writes: "My proposal for a textbook on wines, beers and spirits has an expected publication date of no later than 2025. The book was born out of courses I taught on wines, beers and spirits at El Centro College/DCCCD in Dallas and the University of North Texas in Denton."

Gerald M. Pomper shares news of a classmate's death: "**Ezra G. Levin** LAW'59, our accomplished and beloved classmate, died in Israel on October 31, 2022, after a period of physical and mental decline. He maintained strong ties to Columbia College from his dorm room in Livingston Hall to his long residence in neighboring Morningside Gardens and Riverdale.

"Ezra made his mark as a corporate lawyer, becoming chair of the international law firm Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel, and receiving frequent designation in annual listings of Best Lawyers in America. He also taught courses on corporate law at Columbia, Wisconsin and Connecticut. Still more broadly, Ezra was active in promoting human rights and defending the Jewish community and other groups. These included service as secretary of the Defense Fund for Racial Equality, co-chair of the New York Coalition for Soviet Jewry and treasurer of the Jewish Communal Fund of New York. He brought those experiences into the classroom when he returned to Columbia College as an adjunct professor, co-teaching a colloquium on human rights.

"Our friend is survived by Batya BC'60, his wife of 60 years and a colleague in law; children, Ayala GSAPP'15 and Zach '85; and five grandchildren, all now residents in Israel. He will be remembered for his soft voice, his empathy for the needy and his firmness in the quest for justice." [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

The Gerald Sherwin Young Alumni Service Award, established in 2013 "to honor an individual or group of individuals who has demonstrated exceptional service to the College's young alumni community" and named for **Gerald Sherwin,** was presented this past fall to 2022 recipients Andrew Heinrich '13 and Julian Richardson '14, BUS'21, SIPA'21. Read about the award, and these recipients, at college.columbia.edu/alumni/about/honors/young-alumni-service-award.

We'd love to hear from more of you! Please send us your latest news and happenings, and we'll include them in a future issue. Write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1956

Robert Siroty
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Ron Kapon has been honored by the North American Travel Journalist Association for his journalistic efforts on wine from throughout the world. His citation noted his extensive travel as well as his extensive knowledge and teaching efforts through the years.

Ed Rabin is retired and is an Emeritus Professor of Law at UC Davis.

We had a "reunion" luncheon at Bonnie Briar, **Dan Link**'s country club in Larchmont, N.Y. Attending were Dan, **Jordan Bonfante, Ed Gordon, Paul Bergins, Jerry Fine, Alan Broadwin** and me, and very welcome guests. (See the nearby photo.) Just a thought: If any are interested in arranging luncheons in different parts of the country, let me know, and I'll try and get you a class list for your area. These get-togethers are really a lot of fun.

CC'56 classmates and guests got together in late August at Bonnie Briar, Dan Link's country club, in Larchmont, N.Y. Back row, left to right: Bob Siroty, Alan Broadwin, Jerry Fine, Paul Bergins, Jordan Bonfante and Link; and front row, left to right: Margo Siroty, Barbara Fine, Martha Gordon and Elinor Baller.

In October, **Ralph Kaslick** DM'62 completed his 15th year as chairman of the Visiting Professor Program at the College of Dental Medicine at Columbia. He is now president of the Lyceum Society of the New York Academy of Sciences, which is composed of the semi-retired and retired members of the academy.

Damon Raphael writes from Tucson, Ariz., that he is retired from the practice of ob/gyn but continues to be an avid amateur radio operator. "My ham call is W7MD," he writes.

Murray Watnick reports on his service as a medical officer with the Strategic Air Division in England during the Cuban Missile Crisis, having been warned that "nuclear war was imminent." He notes that it is important that the Columbia community is reminded of those historic 13 days in 1962. He can be reached at mwatnick@aol.com, or 89 The Laurels, Enfield, CT 06082.

1957

Herman Levy
hdlleditor@aol.com

Herman Levy attended the 60th reunion of the Yale Law School Class of 1960, October 21–23, which had been postponed from 2020 on account of the Covid-19 pandemic. He is the last survivor of the CC'57 contingent of four in YLS'60; **Saul Cohen, Bob Gnaizda** and **Steve Ronai** have died.

Reunion events included, among others, a breakfast, a brunch, luncheons, dinners, addresses by present dean Heather Gerken and former dean and present Second Circuit Judge Guido Calabresi, and a panel discussion by U.S. senators and alumni Cory Booker (New Jersey) and Chris Coons (Delaware), moderated by Dean Gerken, on the subject of legislators working together in enacting legislation.

The week before the reunion, Herman attended the American Bar Association Section of Public Contract Law 2022 Public Procurement Symposium in Austin. He is a fellow of the Section and a vice-chair of the Commercial Products and Services Committee.

Symposium events included plenary sessions on "Government Contracts Implications of the Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act," "Ethical Considerations with Flexible Workplaces and Frequent Job Transitions," "Trends in Procurement Enforcement: Issues for Contractors to Watch: State and Local Bid Protests for Federal Practitioners," "The Intelligent Practitioner: Using Modern Communication Principles for Success and Problem-Solving," Hot Topics in Cost Accounting Standards," "Revision of the Model Procurement Code-Background," "Setting Priorities and Engagement Opportunity," "The COVID Contracting Era: Lessons Learned and Key Take-Aways" and "Hot Topics in State and Local Procurement."

There also were two Section receptions and a luncheon. The symposium concluded with the Section Fall Council Meeting.

CCT learned that **Gary L. Greer,** an attorney who lived in Littleton, Colo., died on December 3, 2021; that **Alan I. Fine**, a physician who lived in Warren, N.J., died on February 18, 2022; and that **Richard J. Brower**, a retired professor who lived in River Edge, N.J., died on September 27, 2022. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" online at college.columbia.edu/cct for more on Greer.]

Please send me your news and updates. Classmates would enjoy hearing about you.

1958

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Peter Cohn
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There have been no new contributions to the class mailbag. I hope we will get some updates from classmates before the 65th reunion, scheduled for Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3, to share in the Summer 2023 issue. Please reach out to me with your news.

Based on *CCT*'s publishing schedule, reports from reunion itself will have to wait until the Fall 2023 issue, but in the meantime, please save the dates for our gathering. If you'd like to get involved, please send an email to the appropriate address above (either for planning or for development). Read more about the event online at college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/reunion-2023, and watch your email in the months to come for details from the Alumni Office.

1959

Norman Gelfand
nmgc59@hotmail.com

I hope that all of us are enjoying the relaxing of Covid-19 restrictions, but as **Josh Fierer** has reminded me, the dangers from the virus that causes Covid are still very present and we need to be careful.

Bruce Schlein writes, "We are all well in my family. Our older son, Willy, is an architect and works in Greenville, S.C., at LS3P, a prime architectural firm. He has been made a partner as well as director of medical facilities planning. Erik, our younger son, decided to go to law school at 50, graduated from CUNY Law School, passed the New York Bar and now lawyers at the New York Supreme Court.

"My wife, Alice, is still weaving and teaching the art/craft to students all over the world via Zoom. I still actively make photographs and teach the same at Furman University in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute program. I am able to hear and enjoy music at home as well as at live concerts.

"I keep in touch with **Stan Feld** and occasionally **Albie Padwa.**

"For those who might be interested in seeing my pictures, my blog is cameralucidity.wordpress.com."

Bennet Silverman has an idea for a class contribution: " ... in connection with our next reunion, I wonder if our class would like to support the crew with enough of a contribution to have a new shell bear the name *Class of '59*. It is my thinking that this shell would be purchased for the use of whichever crew has the most wins in the year preceding our next reunion."

From Dr. **Richard Engelman** we hear, "It surely doesn't seem like 63 years since graduation but that is a fact of life. I go to my office five days a week; the administration wanted me to retire so they would not have to foot a salary. In the discussion, I indicated I did not want retirement and wished to remain chief of cardiac surgical research. They agreed to have me remain employed but I had to agree to work only several hours a day. That was OK with me. I therefore remain chief, and am at work at this moment."

Harvey Leifert tells us, "I am afraid that I have nothing exciting to report about my life during the past few months or past few years. I am fully vaccinated and boosted and have so far avoided contracting Covid-19. I made my first international trip since 2018 with a friend last March: a Road Scholar voyage to Costa Rica for birding in the southwestern part of that beautiful country. Switzerland and Scandinavia are scheduled for this June, assuming that all goes well between now and then."

It sounds exciting to me.

From **Matt Sobel,** "The past year has been fine. Susan Slotnick, my wife, and I are reasonably healthy, I had three research publications, a grandson was All-American in Division 3 basketball, other grandchildren (and their parents) progressed well and we had the best cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the 24 years we've lived in northeast Ohio. We continue our avid road bicycling, but we're slowing down, and there are barely enough daylight hours to complete our centuries."

Morton Klevan informs us, "Reflecting on my Columbia years, I think the most important thing I got from my Columbia education was my lifelong friends: **Jerry Wacks**, who, as a commuter, stayed in my room to do a term paper and slept in my bed during the day, keeping it warm for me to sleep in at night; **Isser Woloch**, who married Nancy, the girl I introduced him to and whom I predicted he would marry; **Bennet Silverman,** who invited me to room in his fraternity, Beta Sigma Rho, which gave me **Harvey Leifert** as a roommate. I have lunch with Harvey once a week most weeks. Last, but certainly not least, is **Ken Scheffel.** He could not go home for Thanksgiving freshman year, so I invited him to my house for dinner. In addition to the usual items, we had my mother's homemade potato knishes. I smile when I think of Ken trying to explain to his parents what they were. So, in addition to a first-rate education, I got five lifelong friends. Not a bad return on my investment."

Placido Lavalle tells us, "Since my retirement from the University of Windsor in 2002 plus the end of my work on the shoreline monitoring program at Point Pelee National Park in 2007, and my involvement with rugby union football in 2007 (as a player 1969–76, as a referee 1976–96 and as an old boys team player 1997–2007), I have settled down to a life of bass fishing, travel, contemplation and being a sideline critic at local rugby games. However, in the past three years my enjoyment of life has been interrupted by the Covid-19 lockdowns and the seditious actions of Tronald Dump (aka Donald Trump), which have run afoul of my conservative upbringing."

Ralph Risley writes, "Last summer we did a three-months long RV road trip. My wife, Sara; our dog, Bandit (a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel); and I spent 90 days (12,000 miles) covering 16 states and Ontario. The anchor destination was a family reunion at The Mountain Club on Loon in Lincoln, N.H. The balance of the trip was taken up with visiting friends from past years and revisiting prior residences in Cape Elizabeth and Falmouth Foreside, Maine, and Rockport Mass.

"After 14 RVs and 25 years we finally have a rig that will meet our future needs and that Sara is comfortable driving. Do not let anyone tell you that this cannot be done at our age; we are planning for another 5–10 years."

My apologies to **George Mann** GSAPP'62 for only having enough space for another part of his interesting submission to the Fall 2022 issue. Here is more: "I was born in Vienna, Austria, and we fled to Shanghai on an Italian ship and in June 1940 fled Shanghai on a Japanese ship. Both were later torpedoed by the Allies. In the 1980s I began documenting our family history with my parents and did so for about 10 years. We lost and documented 119 people in the Holocaust, and that seemed to tick in me like a delayed fuse. It had a great deal to do with my career direction, and with the belief in the sanctity and preservation of life.

"I have had a very interesting and productive life, and am also thankful for the wonderful education I received at Columbia. My roommates at the TEP house for one semester were Dr. **Jerry Friedland** and Dr. **Arthur Rudy** GSAS'65, a psychologist, both fine people and good friends, and both very accomplished. Other than that semester I commuted. Am also so thankful for meeting and for studying with many other diverse, accomplished and bright students in our class from all over.

"Today I very much enjoy good conversation, music, travel, reading, lectures at Texas A&M and on YouTube and history (which needs to include herstory). I walk early, while it is still in the 70s, and swim at sunset. Otherwise, it is too hot to be outdoors. Not enough hours in the day."

To be continued.

I am sorry to report that we have lost another classmate. **Jerry Wayne Monroe** died on July 13, 2022, in San Diego. May his memory be for a blessing. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1960

Robert Machleder
rmachleder@aol.com

Rene Plessner submits the following note tracing his life, and ending with an encomium in praise of Professor James P. "Jim" Shenton '49, GSAS'54, in whose memory he is funding a biography.

"After Columbia, I went into the Army Reserves for six months, and then got my first job working for 'the Helena'/'Madame' Rubinstein. I did this for a more than three years, ending in a marketing position. I learned a lot, especially how it is to work in a 'family' business where loyalty and nepotism beat competence. Then for three years I was a marketing manager at Fabergé, also a family business. And finally, to Revlon, when Charles Revson was still running it. That was for a year, again in a marketing position.

"I had 10 years of experience in the cosmetics field, saved some money, lived in a studio and decided to strike out on my own and — with a partner — began Spectrum Cosmetics, with products dedicated to women of color based on foundations that matched their skin color. We were before our time and ultimately failed. We did well in stores, but had insufficient funding.

"I started an executive recruiting business, specializing in cosmetics, in 1971, and I continue. It has been very successful, primarily working with smaller, entrepreneurial companies needing professional help but without over-bureaucratizing the process.

"Around 1995, **Larry Mendelson** BUS'61 took control of Heico Corp. in Miami, Fla., which made engine parts for Pratt & Whitney engines. He gave me business and I recognized it would be a growing company. I bought stock in the company that ultimately was so successful, it allowed me to start a charitable fund that has given me the pleasure to fund causes such as Columbia College, and several other non-profit, do-good charities.

"My involvement with Columbia has reminded me repeatedly of my reverence for American history Professor James P. 'Jim' Shenton '49, GSAS'54, who was a great teacher and showman, and a wonderful human being. I now want to fund a journalist to produce a biography of Jim.

"If anyone who reads this was taught by Jim and has tales to tell, please contact me at 212- 421-3490 or rene@plessner.com and I will put you in touch with the person doing the book."

Brace yourselves: The rest of this column memorializes three classmates.

Bruce Ettinger died of a heart attack on June 15, 2020, in San Francisco.

Larry Rubinstein recalled that Bruce had been Phi Beta Kappa, was a member of Phi Sigma Delta and earned an M.D. at Harvard.

Indeed, and following his residency in Boston City Hospital and a fellowship in metabolic research, Bruce joined The Permanente Medical Group as a senior physician in internal medicine and endocrinology at Kaiser Permanente San Francisco Medical Center. From 1980 to 2003, he was chair of the chiefs of endocrinology for the Kaiser Permanente Northern California Endocrinology Group. He retired as adjunct investigator, Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente Northern California and clinical professor (emeritus) of medicine and radiology, UCSF.

Bruce was credited with more than 200 publications and was best known for his research on kidney stones, osteoporosis and women's health (menopause).

An avid model airplane and sailing enthusiast, Bruce was on the board of the San Francisco Model Yacht Club 2016–20, where he developed programs for youth to learn model yacht sailing.

Larry further advised that **Steve Zwerling** GSAS'61 passed away on June 18, 2022, in New York City.

Steve was regarded as a charismatic educator, gifted writer and poignant commentator on current events. After graduate school he taught at Queens College and became an assistant dean at CUNY and associate dean at NYU. A dedicated writer, he started a small literary magazine, *Niobe*, and wrote short stories and novels. After the publication of his first book, *Second Best: The Crisis of the Community College* — a history of America's community colleges — he was recruited by the Ford Foundation and became senior director for education, media, arts and culture. With the advent of blogging he created Behind the (New York) Times, relating his views on current events. It attracted a following of avid fans. Steve described his interest in writing about current events as follows: "When I was 7, my father began to leave a copy of *The New York Times* on the breakfast table each morning before he went to work. Unread copies piled up for three years. At 10 I began to peek at the sports pages: poring over Dodgers, Giants and Yankees scores. Later, I glanced at other sections, and by 20 I was addicted. At 40, I had my first Letter to the Editor published — it was about Israel bombing Iran's nuclear reactor. (How times haven't changed!). My father called from Florida to tell me he saw the letter and that he was proud of me. That was the first time he said that. It made me cry but also kept me reading the paper every day. Now this blog. I hope he would be proud of this, too."

Art Rosenbaum SOA'61, an educator, folklorist, painter and musician, died on September 4, 2022.

Art was a brilliantly talented and gifted man of the arts. In his early teens he developed a passion for tape recording relatively obscure musicians — banjo and guitar players, old-time fiddlers, bluesmen and gospel singers. On a holiday job in Michigan he taped the songs of migrant workers. This pursuit was more than just a passing fancy. As he described it, "Along with being a passionate enthusiast for the type of music I loved, I was a documentarian." It was a passion with an objective that expanded and filled his entire life.

At Columbia, majoring in art history, Art was intrigued by the folk music scene prevalent in New York. With **Tam Gibbs, Jeff Stewart** and **Steve Cogan**, a group of musicians formed — banjo, fiddle, guitar and voice — that performed at a number of folk clubs and coffeehouses. (Tam and Steve are deceased; Jeff and Steve were my classmates at Music & Art H.S.)

Art earned a master's in art. In 1973 he was teaching art at the University of Iowa, and then in 1976 at the University of Georgia in Athens, teaching at the Lamar Dodd School of Art for 30 years. He became the university's first Wheatley professor of fine arts.

Art continued his passion of recording and documenting American music in prose and paintings. In 2007 he produced a four-disc set, *The Art of Field Recording Volume 1: Fifty Years of Traditional Music*, which included traditional American music dating from the 1920s and 96 pages of commentary, sketches and paintings of the musicians, and photographs.

Art's paintings have drawn great praise for their vibrancy.

In 2008, the *Volume 1* set was awarded a Grammy for Best Historical Album.

Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name: **college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.**

Art was featured in a *CCT* Alumni Profile in the November/December 2008 issue (college.columbia.edu/cct/archive/nov_dec08/alumni_profiles1).

We extend our deepest condolences to the families of **Bruce Ettinger, Steve Zwerling** and **Art Rosenbaum.** [Editor's note: Read more about these alumni in "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

My hope is that you are all in good health. If you have any experiences that are uplifting and joyful, please send them to me.

1961

Michael Hausig
mhausig@yahoo.com

Philippe de la Chapelle became a grandfather. He is pleased to announce that at this rather late date, his son and his son's wife produced the first grandchild, Lila! Philippe and his wife look forward to this new chapter in their lives.

Bob Salman spoke to our monthly lunch group on October 19 offering his predictions and analysis of the midterm elections, a look back at key 2021 elections and a look forward to the 2024 elections. He gave a similar analysis on October 26 as part of Brookdale Community College's Lifelong Learning Program. The Brookdale lecture also included an analysis of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent abortion and gun rulings and the potential impact of these decisions on the 2022 and 2024 elections.

As a member of the New Jersey Democratic State Committee, Bob was active in the 2022 midterm Congressional elections. Among other things, he introduced Rep. Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) at a rally held on behalf of New Jersey Democratic Reps. Mikie Sherrill, Tom Malinowski, Josh Gottheimer and Andy Kim.

Bob's granddaughter Sydney was married on October 22. His grandson Jack is a senior at Wharton, where he is a teaching assistant; granddaughter Taylor continues in Morgan Stanley's Wealth Management department; and granddaughter Mackenzie is a sophomore at the University of Florida.

Stuart Sloame's daughter, Joanna Sloame '09, was married on September 18 in Newburyport, Mass., to Ian Wallace. They live in Longmont, Colo. Joanna is creative director of a digital ad agency and creates video ads for digital platforms. See the nearby photo of Stuart and Joanne at her wedding rehearsal dinner.

Stu recently moved back from Los Angeles to Chevy Chase, Md., where he is active in the CC'61 group that meets monthly for lunch or as a book club. Stu lives in an apartment complex that houses two Columbia sports captains: Rich Rodin '60, LAW'63, basketball team captain, and Al Butts '64, BUS'68, LAW'68, who captained both the baseball and football teams.

Don Savini SEAS'63 and his wife are in the process of selling their home in Wheaton, Ill., and moving to their new home on their farm in central Pennsylvania, near Penn State. They love it there!

Avrum Bluming PS'65 was guest editor for the May/June 2022 issue of *The Cancer Journal,* which was subtitled "Estrogen Reconsidered: Exploring the Evidence for Estrogen's Benefits and Risks." Contributors included opinion leading researchers from around the world. The journal cover and Table of Contents can be found online: bit.ly/3TrxjKY.

Since its initial publication in September 2018, *Estrogen Matters,* a book Avrum co-authored with social psychologist Carol Tavris, has been translated into a British version and a German version, and a Chinese version will soon be published in Taiwan.

Dr. **Gerald Acker** left Columbia after three years with a scholarship in medicine and surgery to attend The Johns Hopkins Medical School and then was a resident plastic surgeon at Penn. His plastic surgery career spanned 49 years in private practice and he was director of three plastic surgery departments in private hospitals.

Gerald and his wife, Carol, have four children, two sons and twin daughters. Son Robert is a trial defense lawyer in Manhattan. Son Andy earned two honors degrees from Harvard and lives in Denver. He is the named manager of a multi-billion-dollar healthcare fund and a newly launched biotech hedge fund. Daughter Ashley is completing a master's in biotechnology at Northwestern, while Alixandra works for Accenture in Washington, D.C., and plans to attend graduate school at The London School of Economics.

ELLEN SLOAME

Stuart Sloame '61 and his daughter, Joanna Sloame '09, at her September 17 wedding rehearsal dinner in Newburyport, Mass.

Carol is a competitive Latin dancer and an accomplished artist. They have traveled to more than 72 countries as both tourist and teacher.

Gerald sends his regards to all classmates in their lives and careers and wishes them all happiness and good health!

Two classmates passed away.

Clifford Miller reported that **Stanley Nash** GSAS'72 passed away on June 28, 2022 in Bloomington, Ind., and was buried in New Jersey, where the Nash family lived for many years. Stanley spent his last years in Bloomington, where his daughter, Dr. Rebecca Cohen '98, cared for him. He had been weakened by Parkinson's disease. Stanley was predeceased by his wife, Edna, a teacher of Spanish language.

Stanley was a member of the Rabbinical Assembly and a professor emeritus at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Manhattan, where he taught many of today's Reform rabbis and cantors.

Stanley and Clifford were classmates in rabbinical school and in the Student Zionist Organization together. For two years, they were a team at Beth El Synagogue in New Rochelle, N.Y., Stanley as student cantor and Clifford as student rabbi.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Stanley's son, Ethan: nashethan@yahoo.com and to his daughter, Rebecca: cohenrebecca@gmail.com.

Dr. **Norman J. Schneider,** a dentist, passed away on September 3, 2022, after a courageous battle with cancer. Norman was a ZBT fraternity member. He graduated from the NYU College of Dentistry in 1965. Norman volunteered and served two years as a captain in the Army, spending one year in Vietnam before being honorably discharged after being injured. He was a distinguished dentist for 45 years in his East Harlem practice. After retirement, Norman was a volunteer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. A loving husband and father, and friend to all, he is survived by his wife of 52 years, Stefanie, and son, Andrew.

[Editor's note: Read more in "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1962

John Freidin
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As the following notes make clear, we're a bunch of moving old men.

Last July **Andy Jampoler** SIPA'81 and three generations of his family traveled to Yad Vashem, Israel's memorial to victims of the Holocaust. Their principal purpose was to participate in the induction of the late Father Józef Czapran into the Righteous Among the Nations, men and women who at great risk to themselves had acted to save Jews from death during WWII. Andy and his cousin had nominated Father Czapran several years ago. "He was," Andy writes, "the Catholic priest in Lwów, Poland (now

Lviv, Ukraine) near my grandmother's home, where I was born. In 1942 he issued and signed counterfeit church documents that enabled my mother, grandmother and me to survive the coming pogrom by fleeing to Warsaw. We immigrated to the United States in 1946 and were the only members of my immediate family to survive WWII."

A decade of retirement has enabled **Paul Gitman** to travel and photograph the world. In July he and his wife, Gail BC'64, spent 35 days in Antarctica. Last October they were making plans to take two of their grandchildren to the Galapagos Islands in December, go to Sea of Cortez in March and, they hoped, visit Indonesia and Bali in 2024. Their three grandchildren attend college at Cornell, Brown and Duke. "Grandchildren," Paul remarks, "are much easier than children."

Richard Toder attended our 60th reunion last June and regretted that so few of us were there. He and his wife, Joan, recently took an 11-day vacation in Morocco. "The souks in Casablanca and Marrakech are so narrow," he observes, "that one wonders how the carts, donkeys and pedestrians co-exist. Sleeping in a tent in the Sahara is a unique event (including the obligatory camel ride). The Moroccans are very friendly, and we had no safety concerns. Upon returning to Naples, Fla., we found that Ian had fortunately missed our house."

For those of us who have contemplated or will contemplate moving into a retirement community, **John Kater** describes his experience: "Five years ago, I moved from California to a retirement community in my hometown in Virginia. Last September I moved again, this time to return to Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where I lived from the late '60s until the mid-'80s. I'm convinced that retirement communities are the worst possible place to spend old age! Fortunately, I've been liberated and hope to avoid one. Hong Kong has finally lifted restrictions on travel, so I can again teach at HKSKH Ming Hua Theological College this fall."

David Cohen and his wife have made a more modest transition: "We've moved from Houston to Austin. All our sons have master's degrees from the University of Texas, and, as you surely know, once a person discovers Austin, they never leave! So my wife and I are nestled here in a house midway between our sons. Not an ideal time to make a housing trade, but the quality of life it brought is worth it."

Another living option was chosen by **Ken Lipper:** "Since selling my investment firm, I split my time between Santa Monica and East-hampton. Bookend my day with yoga each morning and a three-mile beach walk at sunset. Spend a few hours on my investments in the stock market, reading research and making adjustments. Also writing an autobiographical novel and co-publishing with Columbia University Press an encyclopedic book about neuron diseases, particularly Alzheimer's and dementia. I'll donate my share of any profits to Columbia's Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind-Brain Behavior Institute, where I am on the Board of Directors."

During the height of Covid-19, **Armando Favazza** and his wife nearly stopped traveling, but last fall they were headed to Verona, Italy, for a 10-day culinary tour. They planned to stay in a farmhouse hotel and take day trips for cooking lessons, visit balsamic vinegar- and wine-producing venues, and eat lots of Italian food. Armando has been dealing with "the usual and sometimes unexpected aches and pains that come with growing old but nothing serious. I still enjoy golf several times a week and see psychiatric patients part time."

Writing in October, **Larry Loewinger** penned this recollection of his friendship with **Armand Bartos,** his college roommate: "In our senior year four of us rented an apartment where we studied and cooked great meals. One of our roommates was a member of a professional string quartet. Our apartment became a venue for making music, and we bonded over classical compositions. Recently Armand and I reestablished our connection through a mutual love of opera. In 2021 and again in 2022 Armand convinced my wife, Julie, and me to join him and his partner, Kathleen, for a weekend in Parma, Italy. We attended the town's Verdi opera festival, ate some of Italy's finest food, and explored the rich heritage and architectural beauty of that small city — all of this framed by college experiences 60 years ago!"

Last September, **John Freidin;** his sons, Abe and Luke; their girlfriends; and his sweetheart, Kathryn Thompson, spent six luxurious days aboard a small barge gliding down the Burgundy Canal. "How perfect," he says, "to be for so long in a place where your adult children cannot escape!"

Geza Feketekuty lost his second wife to cancer last year, and now happily has a new girlfriend, Cindy Yost Perret, a champion triathlete. Geza says, "While I can't keep up with her, she makes me feel like a young 82-year-old and motivates me to stay fit by biking, swimming and jogging. Speaking of staying healthy and enjoying our age, I recommend reading *The Great Age Reboot: Cracking the Longevity Code for a Younger Tomorrow* by Michael Roizen et al. and *The Longevity Paradox: How to Die Young at a Ripe Old Age* by Steven Gundry."

Gerry Sorin GSAS'69 is the director of the Resnick Institute and its annual lecture series. (Go online to newpaltz.edu/resnickinstitute/events.html for details.) He is in his 57th year at SUNY, and his ninth book — this one on Saul Bellow — should be out by the time this reaches you. "It's hard to contemplate where our world is and seems to be headed. May the planet and its human population survive us all," he says.

Reporting from the Washington, D.C., suburbs, **David Nathan** reports that he has been phasing out of work. In the process he started two men's sports book groups to force himself to catch up on reading he always wanted to do. He highly recommends *Friday Night Lights* and two recent lesser-known works: Billie Jean King's *All In: An Autobiography,* which outlines the history of women's tennis during the last 60 years, and Abe Streep's *Brothers on Three: A True Story of Family, Resistance, and Hope on a Reservation in Montana,* which tells the bittersweet story of a Native American high school basketball team facing challenges in Montana. David also belongs to a couples' non-sports book group that has been meeting for 42 years! Two of that group's favorites are by Patrick Radden Keefe '99: *Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland,* a stunning explanation of the Troubles of Northern Ireland wrapped around a notorious kidnapping, and *Empire of Pain: The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty,* a provocative portrait of the Sackler clan.

Frank Stoppenbach's book *Mission Possible?* — recounting adventures in New York State politics, law, health and the environment — includes some stories about Columbia.

Charles Morrow is featured in this issue's "Lions" section; he has also launched a podcast, iMMERSE! with Charlie Morrow, which explores the world of immersive soundscapes through interviews with sound and technology innovators.

1963

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Paul Neshamkin
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Our 60th reunion is rapidly approaching! Please mark Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3, on your calendar and make arrangements to meet once again — in person! We have formed a Reunion Committee and are busily scheduling great events for all of you, starting with our Thursday evening cocktail reception at **Phil Satow**'s SoHo loft. Let's make this as much fun as our 50th!

Homecoming this past fall was almost ruined by our unfortunate loss to Dartmouth, but I still had an enjoyable meetup with **Steve Barcan** at the Homecoming picnic beforehand. We saw **Bob Kraft** and his new bride, Dana, on the field at halftime, but unfortunately were unable to congratulate them in person.

Peter Broido and **Gary Rachelefsky** couldn't make it to the game, as they met up in Amsterdam to tour some of the artistic treasures of the Low Countries. Peter did briefly join our regular bimonthly Thursday Zoom Virtual Lunch to tell us about their search for the works of Jan van Eyck and said that Howard McParlin Davis would have been pleased with their efforts.

Nick Zill writes: "Here is some news that may be of interest to you and other classmates: I am in North Hollywood, Calif., right now, rehearsing a dozen actors/singers/comic impressionists for a national tour of performances by the Capitol Comedy troupe in fall 2022 and early 2023. Hope that some classmates and their family and friends will make it to one of these shows.

"The Capitol Comedy troupe is on a national tour with the political satire musical comedy show I wrote and produced, *Two Cheers for Democracy.* We have gotten very positive feedback from audience members and venue directors in our appearances thus far. Here is a link to a three-minute video on YouTube that presents some highlights of the show, filmed during two preview performances given in West Hollywood: bit.ly/3iorJwd. The video also contains a sampling of the enthusiastic comments we got.

"On a more personal note: My wife, Karen, and I have both enjoyed and been somewhat frustrated at being 'bicoastal' grandparents to two lovely, bright and energetic young granddaughters, Zelda (in the Bronx) and Nyla (in San Mateo, Calif.). Our sons are Oliver '02 and Zachary '06. Karen and I have been pleased to see what warm and involved fathers our sons have turned out to be. We are just frustrated at not being able to spend more time with them."

Peter Gollon GSAS'69 and his wife, Abby Joan Pariser BC'67, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary by taking a mini-vacation to New York City, where they went to museums and saw the Broadway show *Come from Away.* They met in 1965 at an anti-war fundraising party in Peter's apartment. They recently spent a week on Martha's Vineyard, volunteering with The Nature Conservancy to help restore conservation areas to their natural, wild state.

Martin Greenfield writes, "Finishing 50 years as a practicing physician. My daughter Elizabeth '91's son will be starting at Columbia next year."

Steven Cahn GSAS'66 writes, "I am Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at the CUNY Graduate Center, where I was for nearly a decade provost and VP for academic affairs, then acting president. The most recent of my 20 authored books is *Professors as Teachers* (2022), in which I maintain that too many professors view themselves primarily not as teachers but as researchers. I suggest how the system can be changed so that success in the classroom will be promoted and receive greater emphasis.

"My edited volumes continue to be widely used to teach philosophy. Among the 50 I have done are the anthologies *Exploring Philosophy of Religion,* now in its second edition; *Political Philosophy; The Essential Texts,* now in its fourth edition; *Exploring Ethics,* now in its sixth edition, and *Exploring Philosophy,* soon to appear in its eighth edition.

"I remain grateful to those wonderful professors at the College who meant so much both to me personally as well as to my outlook on the academic world: Montaigne scholar Donald Frame GSAS'41; translator of Spanish and Portuguese Gregory Rabassa GSAS'54; historians James P. Shenton '49, GSAS'54 and Bernard Wishy '48, GSAS'58; musicologists William J. Mitchell CC 1930, GSAS'38 and Richard Franko Goldman CC 1930; and philosopher Ernest Nagel GSAS 1931, who inspired and encouraged my choice of career.

"My professional autobiography is contained in my book *The Road Traveled and Other Essays* (2019), a work that also includes some of my articles on free will, religious belief, academic ethics and happiness."

Elliott Greher writes: "We are trying to continue living in the Washington, D.C., suburbs, our hometown since 1967. We have lived in our current house since 1977. It is very comfortable, but we never realized that a four-story Colonial might become difficult as you age. I now have a chairlift between the main floor and the bedroom floor, go to the basement less than once each day and rarely go to the attic (which has a bedroom and an art studio). Also, the walk to synagogue, an easy three-quarters of a mile up to 10 years ago, has become difficult and lengthy for me. But the home is comfortable and filled with mementos and possessions we do not want to part with. It is a physically beautiful neighborhood, with great neighbors, and the nearby shopping/entertainment amenities are marvelous. (I use taxis and Uber/Lyft since I have not driven in 22 years.) We have joined a 'village,' a movement to help the elderly stay in their houses, as opposed to moving to some form of assisted living. The village members are great, well and diversely educated, and helpful."

Bill Burley writes, "The profile in the Fall 2022 issue of Dave Obelkevich '65, who was about to run his 45th consecutive New York City Marathon, brought back memories. In fact, the first Columbia College graduate to compete in the event was me. In the first race (1970), I finished just under three hours, placing 16th out of 55 finishers. The next year (1971) I finished 24th with a time of 2:47:30.

"Then I switched my training to race walking, winning some junior national Amateur Athletic Union championships and placing in senior events. In 1972, I qualified for the 20K race walking Olympic Trials scheduled for Oregon, but alas, a lack of funds glued me to the East Coast.

"At 81, I still engage in aerobic exercise, but on a bicycle. I still have my original issue of ankles, knees and hips."

Benita Black sends best regards to all of **Henry Black**'s Class of '63 cohort, and writes, "Hello from Henry, who, despite having health struggles, is always happy to hear from classmates. He appreciates being remembered, even if he cannot always participate in class events. He has front-row seats (at his home) to all Lions games."

Henry, we all miss you, and hope you can join us at one of our Thursday Zoom Virtual Lunches!

I've been following **Lee Lowenfish**'s blog (leelowenfish.com/blog/posts/41698) and enjoy his wise observations on professional baseball, and occasionally, our Columbia team. Great reading! If any classmates have blogs they would like to share, let me know.

When you're in NYC, you might be able to reconnect with classmates at our regular second Thursday class lunches at the Columbia Club. Please email me if you are interested and I can confirm the date of our next lunch. In any case, we will continue to meet virtually on Zoom every first and third Thursday at 12:30 p.m. EST. Let me know if you'd like to join us, and I'll send you an invite.

I just learned that **Zev Bar-Lev** (né **Robert Lefkovitz**) has died. Rest in peace. An obituary may be found online at college.columbia.edu/cct, and I will write more about him in the Summer 2023 issue.

And please go to our column at college.columbia.edu/cct for a note from **Gerald Berkowitz** GSAS'64.

In the meantime, please let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next. Stay safe!

1964

Norman A. Olch
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As I wrote in the last column, the editor has imposed a shorter word count because of the international paper shortage, so I could not include every note I received. Trying to catch up:

Paul Zeitlin writes: "**Allan Sperling**'s Class Note in the Spring/Summer 2022 issue about attending The Beatles' performance at Carnegie Hall in 1964 in a Chicken Shirt and formalwear left out a few details. Among his other achievements at Columbia, Allan was editor-in-chief of the 1964 yearbook. As part of the Chicken Shirt PR campaign, he gave the shirts to a bunch of his fellow yearbook editors. I was the managing editor and one of the recipients. Fifty-eight years later, I have the shirt sitting in a bedroom drawer. Maybe it qualifies for *Antiques Roadshow*? I am alive, well, retired and single here in Los Angeles. Best wishes."

On the topic of Jackie Robinson, **Bruce Lefkon** writes from West Orange, N.J.: "For my June birthday, my dad (from Williamsburg, Brooklyn) took my brothers and me to Ebbets Field. We sat along the third base line near the Dodger Sym-Phony and could see Happy Felton's Knothole Gang along the first base line. Number 42 was there, between PeeWee and Gil, and when on base was an awesome presence, but did not attempt a steal home. (I was pissed off in Cooperstown when unable to find any film of Jackie stealing home, which I did see in Washington, D.C., at the National Museum of African American History & Culture.)"

Steve Singer saw Jackie play at all three New York City baseball stadiums: Ebbets Field, the Polo Grounds and Yankee Stadium. Steve reports that Jackie was a "very dangerous base runner" and a "major threat" to his beloved Yankees.

Mark Rogers writes: "The single experience at Columbia that influenced me the most was taking Contemporary Civilization. Having grown up in the Bronx with little cultural exposure (my only museum experience was one time with my eighth-grade class to the American Museum of Natural History), the effect of the exposure in CC profoundly changed my life.

"I was pre-med and went on to a long academic career in medicine (professor at Hopkins, CEO of Duke Health) as well as in medical entrepreneurship (running a biotech hedge fund and starting multiple pharma companies), but I used that success to become a citizen of the world. It was a lifetime exposure to CC in real places, not just at 116th Street and Broadway.

"My wife, Elizabeth, an academic physician in her own right, and I have traveled to more than 90 countries. Among other adventures, we have driven the Pan-American Highway from Alberta, Canada, to Santiago, Chile; gone around the world multiple times; and lectured in Iran, where we got to tour Persepolis, more than 50 years after I learned about it reading Herodotus. Even in the last year, during Covid-19, we have been able to go to Paris, Munich, Athens and Macedonia, to visit the tomb of Phillip II (Alexander the Great's father) in Vergina. We were able to take many of these trips with our two children and five grandchildren.

"As I look back on 80 years, I am profoundly grateful to have had my experiences at Columbia ignite the rocket that carried me on this marvelous journey!"

From **Richard Epstein:** "Columbia College prepared me, as the other members of the Class of 1964, for the years that followed. My career was from start to finish an academic one. Columbia sent me to Oriel College, Oxford, to study law on a Kellett Fellowship. I remembered when I got there that I felt that I had received from Columbia a stronger education than some of the ablest American students who were in Oxford with me. After Oxford it was to Yale Law, where I had the same sense of a comparative advantage. For the last 54-plus years I have been a law teacher and writer, with stints at the University of Southern California (1968–72), the University of Chicago (1972–present, in various capacities), the Hoover Institution (2000–present) and NYU Law (2007–present, again in various capacities). My intellectual orientation was shaped by the Core Curriculum, as I have avoided working in one specialty and constantly have sought to see complex relationships that cross disciplines. I continue to teach and write, and as of late even to litigate on major issues involving a wide range of economic and constitutional issues.

Contact CCT

Update your address, email or phone; submit a Class Note, new book, photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

"And yes, I do remember Jackie Robinson as a boy growing up in Brooklyn. To say that he was idolized is an understatement. He was a great cohesive force for just about everyone.

"And best to my many classmates. Always happy to hear from you, whether near or far."

Mark Kovey writes: "The decades seem to have flown by. I married the woman I started dating my first year in law school; Myra BC'65 was a year behind us, from Richmond. We moved to Washington, D.C., and then to Chevy Chase, Md.; have two kids, a son living in an Astoria house, copywriter with BBDO and no kids, and a daughter, not married who lives in D.C. and runs her own leasing business. After law school, I spent two years at NASA, almost four years at the IRS and then a full career at a small law firm specializing in corporate tax. I loved it but was happy to retire about 11 years ago."

Joe O'Donnell writes from New England: "All is well in Manchester, Vt., where we have lived for some 30 years — the first 15, semi-commuting to NYC for a Fortune 100 consulting company, started after leaving the advertising business. Time at 80 is now spent with seasonal skiing, golfing, two daily dog walks, an almost-daily swim, family time split among four children and six grandchildren, and six to eight weeks trading Vermont views for doses of city life in Paris, London and NYC with 55-year life partner, Barbara. Still supportive of Columbia and in fairly regular touch with football teammates. Recall the Class of '64 is the last class with three winning seasons and the only Ivy title. Advice to younger college undergraduates and alumni? Don't get so caught up with your 'who's he/she' working life that you fail to allow time to enjoy later years. It is as rewarding as being a who's he/she, and no one knows how long the who's he/she years last."

George Marcus writes: "I am emeritus professor of political science at Williams College but principally live with my wife, Lois, in Paris. Harsh life (not). After rowing four years on the lights, I continued by starting the men's and then women's rowing programs at Williams and coached the women's program for more than 12 years. My wife and I created an endowment for the Columbia lightweight program."

The word count for this print column is unforgiving. There is some additional, but limited, space online. Go to college.columbia.edu/cct for notes from **Ted Kovaleff, Doug Ingram** and **Marty Krieger.** More next issue. But for now, in the immortal Looney Tunes words from our childhood, "That's all Folks."

1965

Leonard Pack
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Richard F. Taruskin GSAS'76, described in his *New York Times* obituary as "a commanding musicologist and public intellectual whose polemical scholarship and criticism upended conventional classical music history," died on July 1, 2022. The *Times* quoted Alex Ross, *The New Yorker*'s music critic: "He was the most important living writer on classical music, either in academia or in journalism. He knew everything, his ideas were potent, and he wrote with dashing style." Here are some links to press coverage: bit.ly/3Euw7kA, bit.ly/3hVftmB and bit.ly/3Xfd9Hr. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

Closer to home are some reactions from classmates.

Leslie Brisman, whom I wrote to, as I knew that he was Richard's cousin, wrote, "Thank you from saving me from wondering if I should send the [*Times*] obit to you. It's a sad death but a beautiful obit. I'm particularly grateful that Cathy is described as 'wife' and not 'former wife.' The dear lady continued to take care of Richard years after they separated and proved an inspiration to me, having now cared for Susan, my poor Alzheimer's-stricken wife, for 13 years.

"There is one amazing connection between my wife's deterioration and cousin Richard. Susan avidly read everything Richard published in the *Times* and came to share his abhorrence of original instrument recordings. Long after she lost all ability to communicate verbally or understand speech, I would play a Bach piece on the harpsichord or viola da gamba and she would wrinkle her nose in disgust. But if I then played the same piece on the piano or cello, she'd smile with delight. I'm not sure if Richard formed her taste, but he gave her (and me) license to enjoy what we enjoy!"

I responded to Leslie with a protest that I've heard some riveting "original instruments" live performances of Bach and others. He answered, "I have to make the same distinction you have made. Performances with period instruments can be dazzling; it's the recordings where modern instruments can do a much better job. Richard used to call [Christopher] Hogwood 'Deadwood.' Yes, Richard was my cousin, and we were also classmates at Columbia (though he was a year younger than I). I erred in my earlier email: Richard and Cathy never divorced; they 'separated,' meaning that he started sleeping in his studio, on the same lot as their house, though Cathy saw him through broken limbs and a heart attack as only the most loyal partner could. Unfortunately, she could not curb his smoking, and hence the death by esophageal cancer."

Gene Feldman contributed a memory: "I met Richard while we were still in the King's Crown Hotel. I heard him playing cello in his room and introduced myself, because I'm also a cello player (very much an amateur though). I played in the University Orchestra, sitting on the last stand. Richard was the principal cellist. We remained friends through college.

"In the early 1970s, I came back to campus one June for that event where professors gave mini-lessons. Richard was still at Columbia, and gave a talk about university composers. I remember him saying that the music of these composers was played only by other university composers. It's like they took in each other's laundry."

Allen Young '62, SIPA'64, JRN'64 sent news of **Les Patlove**'s death. The obituary from Les' local paper, *The Recorder*, detailing his fascinating life path, may be read in our column for this issue at college.columbia.edu/cct.

I reached out to Allen about his connection to Les, and he replied: "How nice of you to remember me as both editor-in-chief of *Columbia Daily Spectator* and a participant in the 'upheavals' of 1968. I was arrested at that time! I write about all of this in my 2018 autobiography, *Left, Gay & Green: A Writer's Life*.

"You ask, how did I know Les? I met Les when I was a senior and he was an incoming freshman; it was Freshman Week, and Les was sitting at a table with me. Also with Les was his friend from Massachusetts **Jim Aaron**, who is alive and well in Massachusetts. Anyway, Les and Jim were passing around a book and I noticed it was published by International Publishers. That was the publishing arm of the Communist Party of the USA, and I was surprised and amused to see that, since I am a 'red diaper baby.' So I got into a conversation with Les and Jim. Later, they participated in some of the political activity that I supported involving a group called ACTION, which was founded by Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69, one of my best friends in college and later a renowned history professor and Pulitzer Prize winner.

"You ask for personal thoughts about Les. I think if one reads his obituary, you can see that he led a very unusual life and could perhaps be called a Renaissance man because he had so many interests and accomplishments. He was a family man, musician, farmer, community member, adventurer, worked with his hands — so many things. There's something of a vague 'back to the land' community here in Western Massachusetts and those of us in this community, a sort of political/social/environmental movement launched around 1969–70, feel an attachment to one another."

Richard Kagan sent a great update: "The Autonomous University of Madrid awarded me the degree of doctor *honoris causa* last June in recognition of my ongoing contributions to Spain and its history. The investiture, as the ceremony is known, was replete with all the pomp and ceremony one might expect from a European university. By coincidence, I shared the spotlight that day with Paul Auster '69, GSAS'70, a well-known novelist, whom was awarded the same degree.

"Otherwise, I am well, keeping busy and working on a number of book projects related to Philadelphia, the city to which I moved with my spouse, Marianna Shreve Simpson, a Penn graduate, following my retirement from Johns Hopkins in 2013. One is a biography of Henry Charles Lea, a 19th-century Philadelphia publisher and municipal reformer who was also a historian and author of several books on the Inquisition — I just finished the manuscript — the other, still in a formative stage, focuses on '*la famosa Filadelfia*' and the city's role in the independence movements in Spanish America at the start of the 19th century. That project promises to keep me occupied for several years."

Finally, **Jim Siegel** brought to my attention a publication celebrating **Stuart Newman**'s contributions to biology and evolution. In a nutshell, "Stuart Newman has long championed that biology should take seriously the importance physical factors such as adhesion, surface tension, viscosity, phase separation, gravitational effects, etc., that determine organismal form." Here is the complete publication: templeton.org/discoveries/extended-evolutionary-synthesis.

1966

Columbia College Today
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Greetings for the New Year, Class of 1966! Make it a resolution to send a Class Note to *CCT* in 2023; your classmates want to hear from you! You can write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Stephen Mark Dubrow shares some exciting family news: "Bursting with pride, I break my silence of more than 56 years to announce in this forum the publication by the university press that bears the name of alma mater — Columbia University Press — a book of creative nonfiction by my daughter, Jehanne Dubrow: *Taste: A Book of Small Bites*; for more information, you have only to go to jehannedubrow.com/books/taste-a-book-of-small-bites."

CCT is sad to announce the January 5, 2022, passing of **Paul A. Burt**; the September 16, 2022, passing of **Thomas H. Kappner**; and the November 21, 2022, passing of **Michael E. Feingold**. Our condolences to their family and friends.

1967

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We heard from several classmates for this issue.

David Blanchard: "As I write, we are closing out a beautiful autumn here in Richmond, Vt. My wife, Eve, and I are both retired for some years now and appreciate the time to volunteer and enjoy our gardens, and the many hiking, cycling and paddling opportunities that Vermont affords. We continue to get together with Columbians who live in the area. **Gerry Botha, Eric Dannemann,** Robert Chapla '68, **Bruce Chattman** and **Bob Malsberger SEAS'67** met up at Gerry's home in Barnard, Vt., in September for some hilarious lawn games and a delicious potluck. Eric and I still row our single sculls, and we competed in a couple of head races this fall: the Green Mountain Head Regatta organized by the Putney Rowing Club, where we won a bag of apples and a gallon of juice, respectively, and the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston. (See the nearby photos.) All the best to you and all classmates!"

David Galinsky: "I retired eight years ago from the clinical practice of geriatric medicine and two years ago from being the medical director of the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. In addition to reading literature that I never got around to on Morningside Heights, I enjoy biking, gardening and, of course, seeing grandchildren and appreciating my wife. I have taken up art. My drawings have improved. When I started drawing, I was terrible but am now better than mediocre. I have given up the guitar due to osteoarthritis in my left hand. All in all, I am grateful for my life."

Brant Fries: "I am now retired (Professor Emeritus) from the University of Michigan's School of Public Health. I am president of interRAI Corp., a nonprofit research collaborative of more than 100 members from 37 nations that develops better ways to assess vulnerable populations and use these data scientifically to provide better care and improve health outcomes. My latest work, which was to be published at the end of last year, is a self-reported assessment system for caregivers — those who care for aging family or friends with failing health."

Tom Blinn: "Still alive and seemingly well, living in Amherst, N.H., with my wife, Susan, and our Maine Coon, Chloe. Last summer we bought some tickets for our local public radio station's car raffle and won the grand prize. Took the cash option and used it to replace our high-efficiency gas furnace with a better one."

Arnold Eggers PS'71: "I retired four years ago from joint appointments as a professor in the neurology department at SUNY-Downstate and attending at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y. I then wrote a book, *Meltdown and the Neuroscience of Stress.* My daughter started a master's in learning and teaching at Oxford University and my son started Cornell Law."

Martin Goldstein: "After many years as a writer in the film business, and just as many as a teacher at Santa Monica College, I'm leaving Los Angeles and moving up north to the Humboldt area to be close to my daughter and her three kids, as well as one of my sons, a dean at Santa Rosa Junior College. My other son is a doctor at a UCLA clinic."

George Farkas: "I've retired as Distinguished Professor of Education and Sociology at UC Irvine. Still doing some research, however, and enjoying the beautiful southern California weather."

Jon Buller: "My wife, Susan Schade, and I are now pretty much retired from doing kids' books, but this year our first book for adults, *Nudism Comes to Connecticut,* will be published. It's a graphic memoir about optimism, debt, nakedness and real estate, as her grandfather tries to establish a nudist colony in the early 1930s. Susan did most of the writing, and I did most of the drawing, but we both did a little of each."

Harry Sticker: "I am an IT consultant and live in Manhattan. For

David Blanchard '67 (left in both photos) and Eric Dannemann '67 at the Green Mountain Head Regatta in Bellows Falls, Vt., on October 2, and at the Head of the Charles Regatta in Boston on October 22.

a time, I was a research physicist at The Rockefeller University and then a consultant at Bellcore. I helped found a startup and then started my own consulting company. I have a daughter who lives in Queens. My wife Gail died last year and I recently married Anne."

Lew Perin: "I'm (mostly) retired from writing software for Cornell Medical College. I continue to work on my decades-old passion project, babelcarp.org, a web application that defines and cross-references Chinese tea terms, more than 5,000 so far."

Jack Harris: "There is nothing at all interesting about my life, now. I play golf every day in the summer and swim in the winter. My wife, Barbara, and I look forward to occasional visits with our grandchildren. I read and play violin. I go to doctors. Just the ordinary life of an old person."

Be well, all of you, and do write.

1968

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Greetings from Miami Beach. Do visit, especially this winter.

I have heard from a few classmates who are doing well post–Covid-19, including **Robert Brandt,** who went to Africa, and **Jeff Franklin SEAS'68,** who went to South Africa. **Paul de Bary** and his wife, Stefania, went to Romania twice. **Art Kaufman** has been visiting grandkids on Long Island. **Tom Sanford,** Paul and I were at Homecoming on October 22 and had a good chat with our new dean, Josef Sorett.

Importantly, Columbia Reunion 2023 is Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3. I sent a mailing to our class — a huge postcard. I hope you saw it. CC'71 wants to join us, as its reunion was disrupted by Covid. We are also inviting CC'67, CC'69 and CC'70; more to come. This will be a new construct for a reunion and should produce an amazing turnout and lots of good cheer. (Remember, we had the largest turnout for any class for our 50th in 2018.) This new construct will ensure we get to see others from classes with whom we have a lot in common. The dinner is likely to be the most extraordinary event, with surprises being planned. So please save the date! I have already heard from a number of folks who are planning to come: **Tony Kao, Seth Weinstein, Ken Tomecki, Randy Vaughan** and **George Ting.** Let me know if you plan to attend!

If I may, I again recommend women's basketball. Coach Megan Griffith '07 is exceptional. [Editor's note: See "Roar, Lion, Roar."] The student-athletes also are very talented and went far in the Women's National Invitation Tournament last year. The last time we had an Ivy championship it was **Larry Borger, Billy Ames, Dave Newmark** et al., so it is time to have another.

I hope you are all doing well. I try to swim daily. I love Miami! It's way different from Boston and NYC, and the New World Symphony is here, led by Michael Tilson Thomas. I was able to go recently with the wondrous Peter Hiebert '71. We saw Yefim Bronfman perform Rachmaninoff's *Concerto 3.*

Come to reunion!

1969

Nathaniel Wander
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Bob Waldman writes, somberly and poetically: "Just finished more than 40 years of representing the misbegotten, the desperate, the cruel, the craven and the dumb … the violent and the just-along-for-the-ride, the liars, the lawless and the lowly — all flawed — and have realized the mountain of suffering I have been walking around on is so vast that one cannot circumambulate it in only one lifetime. I wonder what is at the top of this vast, termitic squalor of clambering souls. Is there a golden portal into some kind of peace, of satiation, or does the misery simply become more distilled and concentrated into a black hole into which all of this gets gurgitated and regurgitated out into more of the same? An endless supply?

"Nevertheless, I lead a simple — relatively simple — life. I walk behind the hind of the dog; we get older together; we look at each other calculating the same bets as to who will predecease or whether the bunny will get into the briars before the hound can get her tooth into it. I sail the Chesapeake. I tutor a student into English literacy; little does she know of the vast library that awaits her. I chair the Planning Commission of the municipality here; we try to see into the future. I engage with my community association, with my principal achievement being leading a parade of illuminated costumes, umbrellas, wagons and a New Orleans marching band into the night and around and around in a circle only to light up the darkness and be silly.

"Silly in the face of our generation finally achieving world leadership, and what a fine job we are doing! Idiocy or gerontocracy at the controls of a speeding freight train and social controls of the finest sort being inflicted on the passengers in each wagon behind. Yet, in my path, I meet only the finest people.

"Oh, and the Columbia education was exquisite. It taught, among other things, that this has been going on for a long time and we can presume it will be going on for a long time more."

Hart Perry SOA'71 continues to work in holography, having received a National Education Association grant following his teaching at Bard College. He states: "I have a laboratory and lasers."

He adds, without amplification, "In June I was shot by a crazy person and am recovering," and that he is "now a grandfather. My son, Nick, a doctor, has a 1-year-old."

Nathaniel Wander reports his first art show was successful. "Never a flood, the visitor trickle remained steady and allowed me quality discussion time. I liked that the audience appreciated what I was doing, particularly, showing birds in dynamic scenes.

"Visit my Facebook profile: bit.ly/3Vq1BzM."

These were replies to my question, "What science(s) were important to you at Columbia; how may you have continued to work with them professionally and/or avocationally?"

Henry Jackson replied: "Even before I took geology at Columbia, I was an amateur rock collector. What I learned in class enhanced my pleasure."

The quintessential "Rocks for Jocks" story we all heard was of the teacher holding up a red stone, asking if anyone knew what it was. A student shot from his desk and keeled over crying: "Yaah. It's red kryptonite."

Henry added: "Later, I had to translate articles on mesothelioma. I soon developed an appreciation for the life sciences, even though I had no training in them. Translating pharmaceutical package inserts over the years enhanced my appreciation."

Ed Hyman replied: "In my path to a science career, I took several courses, including graduate courses, in anthropology, then turned to Middle East languages and cultures and completed a major there. Nearly simultaneously, I realized I was bitten by the bug of psychological research, inspired by graduate courses in social psychology and research under then-psychology department chair Richard Christie (who unified the University's Departments of Psychology and Social Psychology). I followed Dick's advice (we became lifelong friends, as I did with his wife, Dr. Dolores Kreisman), to get what I could from Harvard's Department of Psychology and Social Relations, then switch to UC Berkeley, where he had earned a doctorate under Nevitt Sanford (senior author of *The Authoritarian Personality*) and behaviorist Edward Tolman; I never looked back.

"Following a Ph.D. under Nevitt focused on both social and clinical psychology, I joined with colleagues in creating what we now know as forensic psychology and the American Psychology-Law Society. I have had the pleasure of working in hundreds of both criminal and civil cases, participating in some of the most confounding and challenging cases of our day, as well as teaching and researching forensic assessment and evaluation. Along with Dick, Nevitt, Sen. Eugene McCarthy (D-Minn.) and Stanford political scientist Seymour Martin Lipsett, I was also a founder of the International Society of Political Psychology.

"Dick gave me my first entrée into forensic psychology in the area of jury selection, as I assisted research he was conducting with NYU social psychologist Jay Schulman and Columbia graduate students Alice Ross Gold GSAS'72 and Lucy Freidman. I helped expand and balance the political distribution of the sample with material from radical students who had dropped out of college for political reasons. The emerging data was first used in the Harrisburg Seven case at the request of the lead defense attorney, former Attorney General Ramsey Clarke. Our jury selections were 100 percent correct, and started the National Jury Project, though neither Dick nor I persisted in that endeavor.

"At 75 I am still actively engaged in forensic work, with periodic teaching, inspired throughout with a passionate love for the psychological sciences instilled in me by a great Columbia psychologist and a century-long tradition of sophisticated and groundbreaking psychological research at Columbia."

Neal Handel observes: "The science classes I took at Columbia were extremely important and instrumental in my subsequent personal and profession development. Particularly noteworthy for me (and for many classmates, including **Michael Rosenblatt** and **Steve Valenstein**) was Professor Ronald Breslow's organic chemistry class.

"I have always endeavored to base therapeutic recommendations upon sound scientific principles. My exposure to science and the scientific method at Columbia engendered an interest in clinical research that has culminated (thus far) in publication of 65 peer-reviewed medical articles, 12 textbook chapters and the opportunity to co-edit a major textbook on revision breast surgery. In addition to my busy practice in Beverly Hills, I remain active in academic medicine as a clinical professor in the Department of Plastic Surgery at the UCLA School of Medicine."

Jack Schachner LAW'72 reports: "A number of our classmates had no sciences (other than the social variety) that were important to them in the College. Perhaps you'd like to include this as an anecdotal reply from one of them.

"The only science course I took at Columbia was the one known as 'Poet's Chemistry.' As soon as the professor, William Reinmuth, started to write an equation on the board during the first lecture, many students began repeatedly yelling 'No numbers!' He tried to explain that it would be close to impossible to teach a chemistry course without using any numbers, but they never relented. He tried to compromise, but every time he wrote a number on the board, the 'No numbers!' chant resumed."

1970

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I had several reports shortly after I submitted my last set of notes in June. Professor **John D'Emilio** GSAS'74, a pioneering gay academic, wrote: "In October 2022, Duke University Press published my memoir, *Memories of a Gay Catholic Boyhood: Coming of Age in the Sixties.* Using my own life as the entry point, it traces how the conformist baby boom years of the 1950s morphed into the tumultuous years of the 1960s. The last third of the book focuses on my years at Columbia and how it changed me so profoundly — a boy from a conservative Italian immigrant family becomes a lapsed Catholic, a pacifist and antiwar activist, as he is also discovering and exploring the hidden gay sexual underworld of Manhattan. Anyone interested in purchasing it can go to the Duke U. Press website and use the code E22DEMIL for a 30 percent discount."

I got a note from my Bronx Science classmate **Michael Klekman,** who caught me up on his life: "I retired from the Office of the New York Attorney General four years ago and have not regretted that decision. While I found the work there as an employee discrimination and education law litigator in the public sector much more intellectually stimulating (if not more financially rewarding) than my prior private practice experience, I became worn down by the constant stress. Since then I have continued to take continuing legal education courses but have spent the bulk of my time making up for the lack of time I spent with my wife of 48 years, Meryl, and now middle-aged children during the 45 years I was a litigator. I can never recover that lost time but am trying to make the most of the time I have now. Looking back is not useful except for learning from mistakes. Meryl and I have two grandchildren: Skylar (6), who lives right near us in Tarrytown, N.Y., and Desmond (4), who lives in Austin. They are the joy of our lives. We take so much pleasure in seeing them regularly and watching them grow up. I hope we are setting good examples for them.

"In addition, prior to the pandemic I was able to indulge my deep love of classical and popular music much more than I ever did while working or attending school. I attended numerous concerts at Carnegie Hall and David Geffen Hall and operas at the Met. I also began taking piano lessons … In closing, I truly appreciate the work you have done in keeping our class updated about our lives, activities and, unfortunately, as the years go by, deaths. Who ever thought about being our current ages when we graduated from Bronx Science in 1966 and Columbia in 1970, but here we are in what seems like the blink of an eye. We all need to live in the moment."

Michael retired after 45 years of practicing law and I will complete 50 years in June — the good times keep rolling!

Professor **Michael Aeschliman** GSAS'91, who keeps me apprised of his prolific essays, sent his latest essay on Professor Daniel Bell GSAS'60, who taught for more than 10 years at Columbia. It is an excellent read and brings me back to my days at Columbia: *Understanding — and Misunderstanding — Daniel Bell,* M.D. Aeschliman, National Review Online (New York), 17 July 2022.

Richard Yospin reports: "I was planning to get to the 50th reunion, but it may never happen until the pandemic ends (if it ever ends), so it's time to write to the class, which I've never done.

"After a career as a public defender in Alaska, and then another as a civil trial attorney in Massachusetts, I stopped practicing law almost 10 years ago. These days I've reverted to my first love — music. I play clarinet in a couple of orchestras, write and arrange for wind quintet and sometimes for a klezmer band, and perform on guitar and mandolin, currently as half of a duo with a terrific pianist and singer, doing mostly American Songbook tunes. I sing in a big chorus, and until recently, led a small choir (and wrote or arranged most of what it sang) in a havurah near Boston.

"Last summer, I rode my bike, alone, from Marseille to Florence along the Mediterranean (really hilly, really hot and totally gorgeous), and when I'm not on two wheels, I'm usually on a tennis court, or painting (oils and oil pastels on canvas) or writing to friends (paper, envelopes and stamps) around the planet. As I write this, I'm about to get on a plane to visit one of my three kids, the biologist and brew-pub owner, and spend a couple of weeks demolishing and rebuilding his kitchen. Meanwhile, my other son, the patent attorney (CC'98), is vacationing with his wife and kids in Québec, and my daughter, the musician and teacher, is in South Africa, learning their fabulous choral music from local teachers, before she leads a music camp somewhere along the Mackenzie River in Oregon. Things are good."

Steven Schwartz, who has worked with me on many reunions, reported on the passing of a friend: "**Ronald Fischman** passed away last spring in California, where he was a nephrologist. We were classmates in junior and senior high school in Great Neck and roomed together freshman year in Carman Hall. Our suitemates were **Joel Greenspan** and **David Aborn.** Ron was a football player in high school and at least considered the lightweight team at Columbia." [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1971

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Hello, Class of 1971. It has been 55 years since we set foot on the Morningside Heights campus to start our journey toward graduation. At times it feels longer and at times it feels as though it never happened, but here we are.

Robert Bobrick entered with the Class of 1967 but he did not graduate until 1971, receiving a degree in Chinese language and culture. He pursued this line of education, attaining two master's, one in Asian studies from Seton Hall University and the other in historical studies from The New School. He spent six years teaching English and social studies in Japan. During that time, he received a compliment from one of his students: "You are half Japanese!" He married a lady from Guangzhou. Robert lived in China for considerable lengths of time in the recent past. For the last 14 years, his teaching career was spent in New York City, mainly at Lafayette H.S. He lives in Chelsea, and, ironically, after all his world traveling, it is close to the West Village, where he was born. His newest endeavor is to increase his proficiency in Latin so that he can read Caesar and Virgil from the original text.

Robert spearheaded the successful campaign to lift the Covid-19 vaccine mandate and testing requirements at the Success Academy Charter School last winter. This inspired him to run for the New York State Senate, District 47, as a candidate for the Medical Freedom Party. His district would have run from Waverly Place to West 103rd Street along the entire West Side of Manhattan. Because of his fluency in Chinese, and the diverse constituency of the district, he had his campaign material translated into Spanish and Chinese.

> *Dr. Tony Kestler '71, the 1969 NCAA Foil Champion, has been coaching young champions at the Freehold Fencing Academy for 15 years.*

Robert offers to meet classmates for tea or coffee and to get acquainted, or reacquainted as the case may be. He is always up for a good conversation.

Dr. **Tony Kestler**, one of our class's fencing greats, and a neighbor from my New Jersey county, reports, "The Irving Martin Preschel Trophy was reinstated several years ago." My family and I are eternally grateful to Tony for his efforts in that quest. We also thank Coach Mike Aufrichtig for its renewal after 40 years of hibernation. Tony tells the story of his hard work every year at the fencing dinner.

My father, Dr. Sheldon Preschel '43, endowed the trophy initially. It memorializes my Uncle Irving, who attended NYU. During WWII, the brothers came up with a plan. My father, the older of the two, would attend college and then medical school while his brother discharged the family obligation for military service as an Army Corps medic. Once Irving returned from the war, my father would provide the monetary wherewithal to put Irving through school and then they would practice medicine together. This plan failed to be realized when Irving was killed during the war. My father set up the trophy in his memory.

Tony was the 1969 NCAA Foil Champion. That team included several close friends of mine, including **Mark Haselkorn.** He set my wife, Carole, and me up on a blind date in 1970. It will be 50 years of marriage in June. Not many creations last happily that long anymore.

However, getting back to Tony, he retired from the practice of general dentistry, in Plainfield, N.J., in 2019. He has been coaching young champions at the Freehold Fencing Academy for 15 years, transmitting his insights and talent with the passion he holds for his sport. Tony remains active with Columbia fencing and gives the annual Kestler Award at the team dinner every spring. He is on the Governor's Council of the Jewish Federation in the Heart of N.J. He chaired its Overseas Allocations Committee for 16 years. He and his wife, Barbara, have four children and five grandchildren. Tony enjoys retired life in Manalapan, N.J.

I love how our class has been and is making waves in the political process locally and nationally. We haven't stopped being that group that spoke out against what we felt was wrong. I believe that moral sense was driven by our CC courses and the Humanities course from our freshman year.

If you have an interesting story or biographical information that you wish to share, please send it to me at the email at the top of the column. Be well and be safe.

1972

Paul Appelbaum
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Lee Davies expressed his sadness at not having been able to attend our 50th reunion, held last June. "I had a kidney transplant in May and am on massive doses of immunosuppressants. That means all of you are walking petri dishes to me. The most amazing thing is that my sister was a perfect match, and we are both recovering quite well … If any of you is a science or medical denier (and I doubt that is the case with our class), think again! This transplant process is nothing short of a medical miracle!"

Lee also included an update on the last 50 years, for 48 of which he's been married to Jody Messler BC'73, a clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst. "We have two amazing daughters: Jocelyn, an executive editor at Disney and the author of four young adult novels, and Shelby, who wrapped up her fellowship in adolescent medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and started a full-time position there as an attending and assistant professor. Jocelyn and her husband, Jeremy, have blessed us with Max (2). Shelby and her boyfriend, Chris, have a row house in South Philly."

After earning an M.B.A. from Wharton, Lee spent his career in the biopharmaceutical/biotech and medical device industry. He held senior leadership positions at Pfizer, Schering-Plough and Merck, and at several medical communications agencies (including starting his own) and he currently is a consultant to a number of companies. Now retired, he serves on the board of The Galien Foundation and the advisory council of The Hastings Center.

"We've been spending most of our time at our house in Cornwall, Conn. (northern Litchfield County)," Lee says. "When the pandemic hit, we basically went into lockdown in Cornwall (although we still have our UWS apartment of 38 years). I've thrown myself into local initiatives, including being on the boards of the Sharon Playhouse and the Civic Life Project, whose mission is to get eligible youth to get out and vote. In my 60s, I decided to learn to play the piano and took lessons for six years. I now awkwardly take golf lessons."

Lee would like to hear from classmates (contact me for his email address). And he encourages us all to "cherish your health and treasure your families. Count your blessings!"

William "Jack" Hartford sent a note "as my way of participating in our 50th reunion. There are too many people I would like to mention. Some we lost too young, like Chris Donald '71, blues guitarist extraordinaire who could channel BB King, and who was one of the sweetest people I ever met, and like Daniel Judd, who shared his apartment on Claremont Avenue with me during summer 1969. While I worked for WRVR in the tower of Riverside Church and played with the Pythons seven nights a week at the Café Bizarre, Dan was at Woodstock. The great teachers, like Ismar Schorsch, who taught Contemporary Civilization and told us he wanted to be a rabbi and then went on to become chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and who gave us his own take on CC while we looked down from the windows of Hamilton Hall at the SDS marching across the campus below. And a few more whose names I can remember, like Albert Goldman GSAS'61 and Andrew Sarris '51, GSAS'98, whose courses were famous for comedy or for Wednesday (or was it Thursday?) Night at the Movies, but who taught us with unique insight, or Howard Shanet '39, GSAS'41, who taught us Music Humanities in a classroom fronted by a bank of speakers I have only seen in a recording studio, and who blasted it as powerfully as a rock band and taught us as intensely … Unforgettable characters like Sam Steinberg, whom I got to know while he sold his paintings and candy bars in front of Ferris Booth Hall while I manned the front desk, and who painted the drumhead on my bass drum with his trademark Rainbow Snakes. I spent my first Thanksgiving away from home alone at Hartley Hall but went that night to see Jimi Hendrix at An Electric Thanksgiving at Lincoln Center.

"Our class was impacted by the events of 1968 and Kent State and the uncertainty of the draft. Although my life didn't follow the path of Albert Schweitzer (who fascinated me when I was in grade school) and instead ended up more like the *Odyssey,* I am grateful for everything I received through the kaleidoscope of my Columbia experience."

Toby Thaler remembers something about our initiation to Columbia in fall 1968. "I was present when Dean Carl Hovde '50 welcomed our class to Columbia College … As I recall the event took place in Low Library. We were set up in rows of temporary chairs. There was a wire fence separating us from the entry area open to the outside, and my seat was not too far from it. I don't recall, but we must have had to present ID or something to get into the seating area. During Dean Hovde's welcome a person came up to the fence, shook it to get attention and began a loud harangue about Columbia's behavior as an institution, the specific words and content of which I have no memory. He must have been escorted out quickly. I do clearly recall Dean Hovde calling out that the shouter represented something contrary to what Columbia College stood for. He must have been fairly eloquent about it, because most of our class arose to applaud him. I remained seated. Columbia has come a long way since 1968, but at that time I had far more sympathy for the anti-establishment forces then gathering to stop the United States' immoral behavior in Vietnam, with which Columbia was clearly complicit. On that point, the harangue was undoubtedly accurate even if the messenger and moment were not diplomatically acceptable."

Toby, who earned a J.D. from UWashington, is a legislative assistant in the Seattle City Council. "I was a prime mover of the change in its electoral system from all at-large (in a city of more than half a million!) to seven districts, two at-large. It took a citizens' petition-driven charter amendment by ballot to accomplish. We're now going through the first redistricting under the charter provision I co-wrote."

Steven Hirschfeld PS'83 continues with his work at Uniformed Services University, the National Institutes of Health and in the private sector. Though technically a veteran and retired military, he is "fully scheduled and occupied every day, with the word 'retirement' remaining an unfamiliar and probably unknown concept." He and his wife are proud of their son, Josh, who entered college at McGill this past fall.

FRANCIS
CON
DEMOCRAT

Tina Bilofsky, Jon Bauman '68 — aka Bowzer from Sha Na Na — and Allen Bilofsky '73 at an October 12 rally at the Democratic Headquarters in Syracuse for Rep. Francis Conole (D-N.Y.). Bauman was being hosted as the president of Social Security Works PAC.

Congratulations are due to **Mike Gerrard**, the Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice at the Law School and director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, who was named a recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the *New York Law Journal.*

1973

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Slow few months in note-land. Must be my breadth … or lack thereof.

Richard Abels GSAS'82 has retired from teaching at the United States Naval Academy and is doing a podcast on his field, The Middle Ages. Titled 'Tis But a Scratch, it is streaming on Apple, Spotify and other platforms. Go to tis-but-a-scratch-fact-and-fiction-about-the-middle-ages.buzzsprout.com.

Allan Solomon is semi-retired from his psychotherapy practice, seeing some patients, but remotely. He and his wife, Patrice, live in a "lovely" condo overlooking the San Francisco Bay (since 2015). They have a son in Boulder and one in San Francisco, and a 2-year-old grandson from a son (and his wife) in Boise.

Finally — also in grandson news — my wife, Janice Wolf BUS'75, and I have one as well, Zev Etra Lindahl; he and his mom and dad live in Wellesley, Mass.

Until our soon-to-be-50th! Hasta.

1974

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I recently was surprised to learn how similar many of our classmates are to the demographics of Vladimir Putin. He was born in 1952. He was married in 1983 and has two kids. Vlad got a law degree in 1975. He is 5-foot-7 and weighs 180 pounds (a couple of inches shorter and 20 pounds lighter than the average American male). But I bet few in the class have an itchy nuclear trigger finger!

It's not too early to start planning your trip to Columbia for our 50th reunion in early June 2024. Why not take advantage of the affordable campus housing to make this a family vacation to Manhattan and use the savings to pay for Broadway theater, ballet at Lincoln Center or some great dining? If you add in a few days you can also show the kids and grandkids Ground Zero, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rockefeller Center and all the other sites that you may have not seen in decades.

A lot of news came in from classmates on the West Coast. **Garrett McKinley Johnson** (a self-employed attorney in Los Angeles) wrote to reflect on the February 2022 passing of **Ray Reed.** He attended the memorial service in Los Angeles and relates, "Ray left a mark on the world … the memorial service certainly did justice to a life well lived." Garrett adds that he looks forward to seeing all of us at the 50th reunion and notes he wants to catch up with **Sylvester Conyers** (who lives in Greenbelt, Md.).

Andy Wang (who lives in Pacific Palisades, Calif.) says his thriving child psychiatry practice has gone into overdrive to deal with what he calls "the significant mental health issues" children have faced during the pandemic. He still hopes to retire in the next few years if this condition slows. An active globe trotter before Covid-19, he is planning a trip to the Paris Olympics in 2024.

Long absent from this column, **Paul Sumner** (a private practice attorney in tiny Madras, Ore.) tells us that after earning a law degree from the University of Oregon, he worked at a city attorney's office in equally small Coos Bay, Ore. Not too surprisingly, Paul says his practice involves representing small cities as part of his general practice. He said he was "recently recruited by an indigent defense consortium, so I'm on salary for the first time in 40 years!" He is married with two daughters, four granddaughters and two grandsons.

Moving off from the West Coast, Msgr. **Fred Dolan** writes that he recently moved from Montreal to Toronto and continues to work for the prelature of Opus Dei. In addition to various assignments in the greater Toronto area, he also travels twice a month to London, Ontario. Fred was also part of a group that visited the Holy Land for a 10-day pilgrimage.

Longtime real estate lawyer at Mintz Levin et al. in Boston **Stuart Offner** recently left to join a group of lawyers that split off to form Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott (also in Boston).

There are two weddings of the children of classmates. **Bob Adler** (retired in Belfast, Maine) tells us his daughter, Rachel, was married last October. Rachel is an occupational therapist in a local Belfast hospital. **George Van Amson** (a longtime managing director at Morgan Stanley) celebrated the September wedding of his daughter Victoria '15 (who is known as Tori). She graduated last May from the Harvard Business School and is working at the Boston Consulting Group in Manhattan. George made us proud when last May he won the gold medal in the U.S. National Judo Championship in its veteran's division.

There you have it. Classmates busy coast to coast, our children marrying and everyone looking forward to our 50th reunion. See you there!

1975

Columbia College Today
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[Editor's note: Effective with the Summer 2023 issue, we welcome **Robert Katz** to the role of class correspondent! Please send your news to him at robertdkatz@gmail.com or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.]

CCT received the following notes:

Moses Luski has been recognized in the 2023 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Commercial Litigation, & Employment Law – Management. He is a partner and real estate and development regional service line leader in the Charlotte, N.C., office of Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick.

José Díaz writes: "I would like to remember two friends and colleagues who have passed on with whom I had a great relationship at WKCR-FM. I had the honor and privilege of working with Phil Schapp '73 and Carlos DeJesus '77. Phil was famous for his morning show, *Bird Flight,* and Carlos for his Latin music show, *Alma Latina.* My show was *The Mambo Machine.* We were all at the station during the early '70s. I miss them. I mention them and my years at Columbia in my best-selling book, *From the Streets Of New York City,* under the name José Cheo Díaz."

LISHI BAKER '26

Dan Baker '76 (left) and Gara LaMarche '76 strolled through campus on August 27 to commemorate their 50 years of friendship. They met on Carman 9 on the first day of Orientation, September 1, 1972, and have been best friends since. Baker's nephew Lishi Baker '26 was participating in his Orientation that same day, and will graduate the year his uncle celebrates his 50th reunion.

Dov Fischer (formerly **David Fisch,** when he served in the mid-1970s as University senator representing the college student body), recently was named VP of the Coalition for Jewish Values, an association of more than 2,000 traditional American Orthodox rabbis, and is a senior contributing editor at *The American Spectator* and a regular contributor at *Arutz Sheva/Israel National News.* He recently stepped down after nearly 20 years as a law professor at Loyola Law School and several years at the UC Irvine School of Law. He continues as rabbi of Young Israel of Orange County, an Orthodox synagogue congregation.

And now, a few words from **Robert Katz:** "Fellow members of the Class of 1975: I am excited to take over as class correspondent, as it will give me a chance to get in touch with classmates whom I haven't spoken to for a while. Unfortunately, the position only opened because our longtime and diligent class correspondent, **Randy Nichols** TC'79, passed in May 2021. I hope everyone will be forthcoming with news items.

"We are not too far off from our 50th reunion and we will try to make plans for special events to increase participation. I have been on the Reunion Committee for several reunions and would be willing to assist again.

"About me: I am divorced and remarried. I have two boys from my first marriage, Aaron Katz '04 and Adam Katz '08. I also two boys from my second marriage, to Jane (Penn '81) — Harry, who recently graduated from The Ramaz School, and Joseph, who is a 10th-grader at Ramaz. We live in Manhattan, but unfortunately don't take enough advantage of all that the city has to offer.

"Once again, I look forward to hearing the news from everyone so that we can fill this column in the next issue and those thereafter. All the best!"

1976

Ken Howitt
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After going to Homecoming on October 22, I was inspired by the collection of '76ers to start writing with Aaron Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man,* because outside of me, there was a collection of three lawyers and **Jim Berquist,** who is anything but common. Hence, I was the only Common Man from the Class of 1976 gathered in the tent or at Frank Furillo '70, SEAS'76's tailgate.

Of course, **Jim Bruno** and Berquist were checking out the beers at Frank's. The other two lawyers, **Jon Margolis** LAW'79 and **Mozelle Thompson** SIPA'79, LAW'81, were holding court (so to speak) at a table inside the tent, equal distance from the food and beverage tables. My legal representatives saved me a spot at a great location!

Everyone is still working and making a living. Berquist thanked me for sending the cutout that was used at last year's basketball game, which he has proudly displayed in his reception area for his financial services customers. He also has the hard copy of the report on the "two-dimensional" reunion that I recounted in my Spring/Summer 2022 column.

Jon splits his time between Manhattan and Long Island while practicing law. In Manhattan, he is only a couple of blocks from grandchildren! Mozelle is in Rehoboth Beach, Del. Make sure you visit him, because he knows great lunch spots and will even drive you past the summer/weekend White House. Bruno is still lawyering in central New Jersey. I was going to take another picture of the two Jims overlooking Robert K. Kraft Field, but it would have been a repeat from last year and they look way younger than they did a year ago. Take my word for it.

I am going to continue mentioning music and my arts goings-on, as after the publication of the Spring/Summer 2022, column, which mentioned the Caramoor Center for Music and the Arts in Katonah, N.Y., I received an invitation from Michael Skelly '77, the longtime piano instructor in Columbia's Department of Music. He invited me to his home in Hyde Park, N.Y. for a Sunday afternoon piano recital that benefited a local food pantry. His performance was terrific! A great afternoon! So, this correspondent's job comes with perks!

Speaking of music, if you are heading to Virginia, look up **Joe Graif** BUS'78. He recently received a sizeable grant from the National Association of Music Merchants that will fund the 2023 schedule of performances in his new home. Joe has a room dedicated to staging these events, and as previously mentioned, formed a nonprofit, The Susan A. and Joseph N. Graif Foundation.

Next on the arts list is **Gordon Kit** and the Kit Noir Film Festival at the Lenfest Center for the Arts, on the Manhattanville campus. This year's festival (the fourth!) will run Wednesday, March 1–Sunday, March 5; tickets will go on sale in February. The theme is "Beyond the Femme Fatale: The Women Who Made Noir," exploring the role of female writers and filmmakers in the noir films of the 1940s and 1950s. Each day will be devoted to one of the roles women played behind the camera as screenwriters, producers, noir novelists, and, in one celebrated case, as director. The festival will have guest lecturers and films will include *Gilda* (1946), *In a Lonely Place* (1950), *Strangers on a Train* (1951) and *The Hitch-Hiker* (1953), among others. If you want information about the festival's first three years, which includes great movie viewing suggestions, go to arts.columbia.edu/noir.

One of my predecessors as class correspondent, **Dave Merzel,** checked in: "I recently returned from the 2022 North Shore Inline Marathon in Duluth, Minn., the country's largest skating marathon (26.2 miles). I skate every organized event in my Columbia jersey and shorts! Good fun, and a good soaking, was had by all. After the race, hot chocolate and a beer never tasted so good."

Dave sent a great picture of himself on skates with his Columbia outfit, but photos are only published in *CCT* if they feature two CC alumni. I suggested that he get fellow Minnesotan **Tim Tracey** to root him on one day.

John Connell sent in the following on his activities from last summer: "My wife, Colleen, and I celebrated the wedding of our third daughter, Brigid '16, to Annie Bryan '18 on June 10 in Radnor, Pa. The beauty of the day was only exceeded by the beauty of the brides, who have now taken up residence in Philadelphia. Colleen and John could not be happier. As if that were not bliss enough, Colleen and John's second daughter, Erin '13, gave birth on August 14 to her first child, Colleen and John's third grandchild, all of whom are boys.

"On a professional note, as a member of *New Jersey Lawyer* magazine (a publication of the New Jersey State Bar Association), I was co-editor, with Rutgers Distinguished Professor of Law Emeritus Robert F. Williams, of a special edition dedicated to the 75th anniversary of the New Jersey Constitution. The magazine published on October 1, covering a range of state constitutional law topics from abortion to firearms regulation."

Talk about low-hanging fruit: too easy to insert another lawyer comment here, so I will pass.

John is not the only Class of 1976 member to marry a daughter last summer. My daughter, Katherine '13, marred Evan Casper-Futterman at an Adirondack camp near Lake George in August. What a great three-day weekend for the family! I took the weekend off from everything except being a family member, so I have no photo for *CCT.* Oh, well.

There is one photo from **Dan Baker**, who sent in a great shot of himself and **Gara LaMarche** on campus last August. They got together to celebrate 50 years of friendship; they met at freshmen Orientation. The photo was taken by Dan's nephew Lishi Baker '26, who will graduate when we will be celebrating our 50th class anniversary.

Yes, the 50th is fast approaching. Please stay in touch with me and with your friends from your Columbia years. If you have any ideas for reunion, get in touch because we will get things rolling soon. In the meantime, please send in your news, updates and photos, as long as there are two CC alumni in the photo. [Editor's note: All photos also must be at least 750 kb and should be sent directly to *CCT* though the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.]

I am concluding with Copland's *Appalachian Spring.* I listened to that a lot in the last few months to help get me through Howitt's Hoboken Winter.

Stay safe and stay in touch.

1977

David Gorman
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The last big event was our 45th reunion, last June. Sorry for the delay in reporting. Although I swore up and down in a previous column that I would be there, in the end, I missed it. A number of us turned out, however. This is the list of attendees at the class dinner, provided to me by the Alumni Office, with apologies to anyone whose name was not included: **Russ Behrman, Peter Buxbaum, Mark Goldberger, Bill Gray, John Hallacy, Charles Knapp, Jon Lukomnik, Brent Rosenthal, Daniel Sang, Walter Simson, David Stanton, Chris Sten** and **George Whipple.** Only a bit more than four years until the 50th reunion. Just saying.

Meanwhile, **Bart Holland** PH'79 wrote that after 37 years, he retired last August from his tenured position at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, becoming a Professor Emeritus of Biostatistics. Bart recollects that, at the College, he majored in anthropology, "but subsequently traveled a few intellectual pathways to arrive at [my] ultimate career." He has been married since 1985, and has a grown son, and a daughter about to be married.

To which I might add that, by the time you read this, my son will be married (his mom being Jackie Laks Gorman BC'77).

1978

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Matthew Nemerson
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Last issue we had to cut this great submission from **Chris Allegaert:** "Last winter, I hosted at my family's Adirondack Mountain retreat in Keene **Don Endrizzi** PS'82, recently retired from his orthopedic practice in Portland, Maine, and **Ken Smith,** also recently retired, from HSBC in Switzerland, where he lives in Luins, a picturesque village east of Geneva overlooking Lac Léman and Le Mont Blanc. At Columbia, Don, Ken and I made up the stern three of various Heavyweight 8s from our freshman year on. The three of us also worked together in a Brooklyn warehouse every summer during college organizing the massive paper records of a failed stock brokerage firm for the estate's bankruptcy trustee. It was a gritty job but getting paid $5 an hour and being together made it seem like an extension of the crew season: hard work, sweat and lots of laughs.

"While I've gone to Geneva and so had regular contact with Ken, and I've crossed paths with Don intermittently, the three of us hadn't gotten together in many years. Don's housewarming present was a really impressive, framed watercolor he painted of a rustic fly-fishing scene. Don paints and fishes in retirement with the same enthusiasm and dexterity he employed doing years of shoulder replacements. Ken's contribution to the festivities was bringing from Switzerland the ingredients for and preparing a fantastic fondue, showing off his culinary chops to great effect.

"We topped off our get-together holiday with a wonderful dinner hosted by our teammate Adrian Shoobs '79, prepared by his wife, Abbie, at their *This Old House* project in the Berkshires, joined by fellow oar **Allan Cox** and his wife, Sally, who live down the road from Adrian. If it's possible to squeeze more fun and memories out of few hours, I'd like to know how!"

Jonathan Haft LAW'82 fills us in with his more recent life journey: "I was an SVP at Disney Music for quite a few years. Unfortunately, I suffered a traumatic brain injury about 11 years ago while in Mexico and had to be flown back by medevac to Los Angeles, where I spent several months in the hospital in intensive care and another four months in a rehab. I had to retire soon after trying to return to the Disney job.

"My wife, Judy, works at Mattel as a stylist for advertisements for its American Girl line of dolls while our daughter does the same things for its Barbie dolls. My son works for Amazon as a software engineer for its Alexa division. Aside from our home in L.A., we have a place near Joshua Tree National Park and another near Orlando, where Judy's family lives."

Alfred Feliu tells us, "I am pleased to report that my daughter, Julie, was married in October by none other than Hon. **Joseph A. Greenaway Jr.**"

Dr. **Kevin Vitting** spent last summer bicycling and sailing, and has these wise words on Columbia's recent ups and downs in the college rankings: "We've always been a great university — a bastion of diversity and academic excellence and classical education in the greatest city on the planet. Whatever numerical machinations the other top universities may resort to for jockeying for position on the leaderboard, it does not detract from Columbia's strengths in the long run!"

A few updates from the Spring/Summer 2022 column from editor **John Glusman** GSAS'80: "W.W. Norton is proud to have published more Columbia writers, such as Saidiya Hartman's *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments* and Sexual *Citizens* by Jennifer S. Hirsch and Shamus Khan.

"I'm also very proud of my son, Graham, studying international criminal law in Amsterdam, and daughters Jenny, a pediatrician, and Isabel, to be a Ph.D. in psychology."

Robert Anthony updates us, "Happy to be back covering real, in-person tech and travel media events again and seeing colleagues I've missed for so long. My paper, *PC Picks — Best in Tech,* on Pinterest, has 1.1 million followers (same as the Chicago Cubs) and my Tech Tips column appears in *Sree's Sunday Note,* a newsletter curated by Columbia's former chief digital officer, Sree Sreenivasan. Finally, I predict that Aaron Judge will play for the Yankees this year along with the Mets' Jacob DeGrom."

Sports analyst **Tom Mariam** writes, "Of the many things I learned at Columbia, my WKCR radio skills may be the handiest. I've been doing a lot of work for AP Radio Sports, including covering Aaron Judge's historic home run chase all season and anchoring and producing once a week the nightly *AP Sports Wrap.* It brings back memories of producing and hosting WKCR's *Jockey Shorts* show.

"The big baseball story in New York this year was not the Yankees or Mets — it was Columbia's baseball team. Our Lions were a number 3 seed in their region and won two games. National champ Mississippi was also a number 3 seed in its region.

"Finally, as even Lou Gehrig CC 1923 experienced, every long streak comes to an end. This was the first year in 40 that I missed Homecoming. It coincided with Parents' Weekend at Tulane, where my daughter is a sophomore. At least the Green Wave wears light blue uniforms for most home games."

I also missed Homecoming for the first time in decades, opting to go to Penn State's homecoming with my brother David Nemerson '83 and his wife's family, where 109,000 fans all dressed in white was a slightly new experience!

Mark Blackman did attend the game: "Just returned from the Homecoming game, which I attended with my brother **Gary Blackman; Tom Bisdale** and his wife, Leslie; and Chris Sten '77. Beautiful day, big crowd and an exciting game that went down to final seconds, before Dartmouth prevailed.

"Gary and I are still with ArtsPower National Touring Theatre, the company we founded 38 years ago. In April 2022, we were invited back to Tallahassee to receive Florida State University College of Music's Ella Scoble Opperman Faculty Citation for Graduate Alumni Distinguished Achievement. We still play and look forward to continuing as active musicians into our post-ArtsPower years."

"Since leaving Columbia," **Bill Hartung** tells us, "my career has centered on foreign policy issues at think tanks including the World Policy Institute, the New America Foundation, the Center for International Policy and, as of January 2022, the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft. My areas are Pentagon spending, global arms sales and nuclear policy. I write on the Forbes website, for *The Nation,* and on occasion for *The New York Times, The Washington Post* and other national publications. It's in many ways a scary time in world affairs, but I'm glad to be in a position to contribute to the debate on what role the United States can most usefully play."

Having a similar kind of impact, but in different circles, **Gary Pickholz** SIPA'81, of Oxford University notes, "I have been appointed head of academic partnerships and social impact investment for the S8 Nations NGO in Zurich, a consortium of the eight innovative small nations: Singapore, Israel, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Ireland and New Zealand."

Gary is exasperated by the silly questions I often ask to provoke people to send in extra notes, and he is not wrong.

And we close with the ambassador, **Chris Dell:** "Took a three-month trip to Portugal, Germany, Bulgaria, Mozambique, South Africa and Eswatini (The Country Formerly Known as Swaziland). A mix of work and adventure. Lots of game parks, whale watching and birding.

"Back in the United States long enough to collect the mail and get a Covid-19 booster, then it was back to Europe and Africa, as my wife is on an extended temporary assignment in Maputo before taking up a posting to Kyiv next summer. Maybe. We're not sure how that one will play out in terms of when, where or how."

Go to college.columbia.edu/cct for bonus notes.

Thanks everyone for responding to your humble scribe's many exhortations to write.

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CCT

1979

Robert C. Klapper
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Xavier Huguet has "retired from my job at the European Commission in Brussels, and I now split my time between this city and Barcelona. My wife, Nadine, is a choreographer and teacher at the Institut National des Arts de la Scène in Brussels."

Stephen Ackerman was an attorney in the Legal Counsel Division of the New York City Law Department for more than 30 years and retired in 2019. His debut poetry collection, *Late Life,* won the 2020 Gerald Cable Book Award and was published in August 2022. He writes in the Acknowledgments section of the book, "In college ... I took courses with two extraordinary poets and teachers: Kenneth Koch and David Shapiro. I was then, and I am now, grateful to them."

DEREK JUENGEL

"Oar, Lions, Oar!" On July 27, a contingent of Lions — left to right: Bernie Crinigan '79, Brian Tolan SEAS'81, Terry Jones '85, John Schutty '80 and Lance Warrick '79 — tackled the Bowron Lake Canoe Circuit, in the wilderness of British Columbia's Cariboo Mountain Range. Jones holds a Columbia blue paddle that was added to the collection of miniature paddles that canoeists traditionally leave at "The Chute," a shelter located at the halfway point of the circuit, which is 72 miles of lakes and short portages laid out in a natural parallelogram and widely considered one of the world's finest canoeing destinations.

Robert C. Klapper: "You know we're getting old when the only two letters are about finally retiring! For those of us still working, try not to look in the mirror.

"Today's Columbia thought is about the massive sculpture in front of the Law School, *Bellerophon Taming Pegasus,* by Jacques Lipchitz. The installation occurred in 1977, and I remember it well. **Jack Garden** described it as giant muscle cramp. His description has stayed with me all these years.

"On a recent vacation to ride the wild surf in Hawaii I mistakenly entered what's known as the 'impact zone.' This is where waves traveling for thousands of miles across the ocean hit the reef on the shores of Oahu and kick the water to become these glorious mountains of water that one can surf down. But if, as in my case, the wave was big enough, it throws you off in midflight and down the face of the wave. The lip of the wave acts as a pile driver pushing you through the surface of the water literally into the reef. As I tumbled under the ocean, I was quite disoriented. I actually did not know which way was up or down. I have since been coached by other surfers to feel your ankle, feel your leash and follow the leash, because the surfboard floats on the surface and you will know which way is up.

"I will be honest ... there was a distinct moment when I was swimming with all my might and suddenly realized that I thought I was swimming the wrong way. I was diving deeper down, and not going to the surface above. As I struggled in the white water I told myself I had only one breath left and as I pushed my arms to break the surface to take that last breath, I inhaled water instead of air.

"I am here to tell you that you can inhale water and survive. This experience of tumbling and turning and twisting in the white water took me back to that day in 1977 when I first saw that Lipchitz sculpture. It's 23 tons of metal and at the time only *The Statue of Liberty* was a bigger metal statue.

"Why, you might ask, would I be thinking about that sculpture all these years later? It's because I always wondered why the Columbia-trained architect, Max Abromovitz, commissioned Lipchitz in 1964 to make this piece of art (it was installed after Lipchitz's death).

"What do surfing and wiping out have to do with this titanic piece of art? The answer lies in these words from Lipchitz himself regarding the piece's backstory: 'You observe nature, make conclusions, and from these you make rules. … And law is born from that.'

"The twisted figures in Lipchitz's work might have related to the study of law to him, but on that day in Hawaii, feeling my limbs twisting in nature, I made my own conclusions, and this sculpture was all I could think of.

"My connection to the Law School library and the trek across Amsterdam Avenue were key parts of my years at the college. I did not find the stacks at Butler or the grub room to be quiet enough to concentrate. I found the Law School library to be the best place for me, with the fewest distractions. And so in my junior and senior years I saw this sculpture, as many of you did, every day.

"I would love to learn more of the backstory of why Abromovitz chose Lipchitz to showcase in front of the Law School. How did they meet? These men came together on the campus and even though I was thousands of miles away in the middle of Hawaiian waters tumbling for my life, their creation was on my mind … like a muscle cramp.

"Roar, lion, roar!"

1980

Michael C. Brown
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Seasons change with the scenery
Weavin' time in a tapestry
Won't you stop and remember me?
... Look around
Leaves are brown
And the sky is a hazy shade of winter
— *Simon & Garfunkel*

Well, another year has passed and many of us are entering our 65th campaign. As I like to say, "aging like a fine wine." We still have a long way to go, so stay positive and keep those legs moving.

I had a wonderful call with **Pat DeSouza** regarding his company, Water Intelligence, where he is the executive chair. As you might know, Pat is our go-to guy on everything water. His company is a leader in water and water-related infrastructure solutions in both the European Union and the United States. Given the recent headlines surrounding Jackson, Miss., and the recent hurricane in Florida, the need for his services is greater than ever. Pat and his family live in Connecticut.

We caught up with **Charles LaRocca** at **A.J. Sabatelle**'s daughter's wedding. (Go to college.columbia.edu/cct to see a photo of a few of us at the wedding.) Always the consummate gentleman, Charlie is the co-founder and CIO at LCJ Associates, a registered investment advisor in Brooklyn, N.Y., which specializes in financial planning and asset management and is highly regarded in the NYC area. His son, Andrew, recently joined the firm, making this a true family business!

On a personal note, my wife, Marianne, and I have moved to Boynton Beach, Fla., but plan to spend time in the NYC area during the summer. Please feel free to reach out to me at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

1981

Dan Albohn, Kevin Costa and Rich Gentile
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Tom Kelliher and your correspondent **Dan Albohn** shared memories of and experiences from our time on Morningside Heights. Tom reports: "I've been at Northridge Preparatory School in Niles, Ill., near Chicago, for 30 years. I teach AP U.S. history to juniors, geography to sixth-graders and a Civil War elective to high school students. I also enjoy advising juniors and seniors as they explore colleges and the admissions process. Each summer for 25 years, I led a Civil War trip for Northridge. Although a long drive from Chicago, it was always a great experience with much learning, some recreation and many fond memories. Our base was The Heights School (Potomac, Md.), where I taught in the 1980s. Our itinerary included two days at Gettysburg and visits to Bull Run, Antietam, Harpers Ferry and Ford's Theatre. The students would spend July 4 visiting museums and taking in the fireworks on The Mall. When people ask me why I stopped running the trip, I quote the famous philosopher Clint Eastwood: 'A man's got to know his limitations.' Some of my closest friends in the Chicago area are former students who went on the journey."

Among Tom's Morningside memories is a one-day 1980 stint as a chauffeur for Independent presidential candidate John Anderson, together with **Mark Gordon** SIPA'82, founder and president of the nonpartisan League of Student Voters. We "picked up Anderson and two staff members in my dad's 1973 Nova," Tom recalls, and Anderson pulled rank with a police officer to allow them to make an illegal left turn onto 110th Street. Anderson cracked a joke or two and I remember saying, 'I need to drive congressmen more often!'"

Tom and Dan also remembered Dean Robert Randle GSAS'66's CC class, which they took together. Dean Randle sat in a chair up front, our class assembled in a U with no desks. He frequently assigned additional material that we typically had to obtain in Butler Library. On several occasions when he was away, Randle's counterpart, the amiable Dean Ainslee Embree, who led his own popular CC section, was the special substitute.

Five years after graduation, Tom returned to New York for the summer and made his way to campus, where he took a course with the legendary history professor James P. Shenton '49, GSAS'54. Funded by The National Endowment for the Humanities and offered for high school teachers, the course included several of Shenton's always-popular walking tours of the city. "Professor Shenton's enthusiasm and his personal interest in the students was an inspiration for my own teaching career. He enjoyed taking students out for dinner, a custom that I have continued with my school's alumni," Tom says.

Tom and Dan recalled the memorable debate, a few weeks into our freshman year, between Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) and William F. Buckley. Presented by The Debate Council of Columbia College to more than 400 people packed into Low Library and later airing on PBS' *Firing Line*, the debate centered on the resolution "That the welfare system in the United States should be federalized." To decide the winner, audience members literally voted with their feet, as they chose whether to exit to the right or left. Moynihan prevailed by 259 to 166. According to *Spectator* (September 26, 1977), "Buckley expressed some disappointment, while Moynihan said he was surprised that he won by such a small margin at Columbia."

Arthur Geller PS'85 enjoyed the news in our Fall 2022 column from **Ed Kelly,** his freshman-year roommate in Carman, and was prompted to write. "After practicing gastroenterology in an academic setting early in my career," Arthur reports, "I have been in private practice in Monmouth County (N.J.) for 22 years. I hope to continue in practice for many years to come. I am blessed with a wonderful family — my wife and two daughters, the older a medical student at Rutgers and the younger a dental student at Penn."

From his Columbia years, Arthur remembers a conversation with the now-late, great professor Karl-Ludwig Selig, a professor of Romance languages and teacher of a well-known course on *Don Quixote* (which he pronounced "kwik-sit," an eccentricity recalled even by those who didn't take the course).

"Many pre-med students considered Selig's course a prerequisite for medical school, as much as organic chemistry," Arthur says. "We were standing on the steps of Hamilton Hall where Professor Selig said, 'Geller, when I interview a young prospective faculty member, I will intentionally state an incorrect fact. One applicant will reply, "I think that is wrong, Professor," and the other applicant will say, "You know Professor Selig, I'm not sure I remember this as you say. Let us go the library and research this. We can come back for some schnapps and discuss further." I will always recommend the second applicant for the position.' This lesson in humility and sensitivity made a profound impression on me and helps to explain why Professor Selig was such a legend at Columbia."

Dining at Lusardi's in NYC on July 10 were, left to right: Dr. Basil Pace '81, Erik Jacobs '81, Dr. Martin Stransky '78, Ron Torres, Guido Amati and Dr. Yurij Baransky SEAS'81.

Rich Gentile is winding up his long political career with his landslide election to the office of Probate Judge in East Hartford, Conn. Rich's ascent began with his successful campaign for Student Council in high school. A brief misstep followed early in our freshman year, when posters that urged a vote for "Rich Gentile" had to be hurriedly replaced with others that said "Richard Gentile," as some streetwise classmates who had not yet met Rich suspected a prank. But Rich showed his perseverance and was elected class president during both our junior and senior years. From there the path wound ever upward. After a few years practicing law in New York City, Rich returned to East Hartford, where he entered town politics. The voters soon made him chairman of the Board of Selectmen, and of the Town Council and then the Redevelopment Agency, where he helped to shape the now-thriving downtown of East Hartford. He soon assumed the role of harbormaster, and in his spare time performed dozens of marriages as justice of the peace. In consideration of his long service to the town, the Republican Party declined to nominate a candidate to oppose Rich in this, his last election, hence the landslide result.

Dan caught up with Rich on the campaign trail, where he asked the candidate to reflect on his long years of service. "I've been fortunate to have been able to represent the people of my hometown during the past 35 years," Rich said, adding, "It all started at Columbia."

1982

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Gents, as I sit down to assemble the notes for this issue, the days have grown shorter and colder, while the U.S. midterm elections loom large.

Great turnout for the notes this time! This was the first occasion that I had to shorten the column to fit within the editorial guidelines; for that I apologize.

Checking in first this period, the multi-talented **Nobuhisa "Nobu" Ishizuka** LAW'86: "Been very busy with my duties as chair and president of USRowing, traveling to the Czech Republic for our World Championships in September, attending US Olympic and World Rowing congresses and overseeing the overhaul of our high-performance program as well as all our domestic programs.

"Otherwise, I'm still teaching comparative law at the Law School and running a research center. With two daughters in the academic world (one working at Harvard Law School, the other teaching at Groton School), we are fully immersed in academic life. And my wife, Marcia GSAPP'86, and I welcomed our first grandchild, a boy, last year."

Also checking in this period, our esteemed citizen of New York City, **Francisco Navarro** SIPA'86: "This past September I completed my 36th year of working at the New York City Mayor's Office of Operations, where I got my first job after earning an M.P.A.

"This year concluded the 42nd year of the Roach Motel League (RML) fantasy baseball league, with members including Nat Saffran '20, son of the late founding member of the RML, Alan Saffran '81, PS'86; Mark Allen '81; **Steve Georgeson;** Jaime Prieto '83; Larry Hardin '83; **Jay Shevins** BUS'84; Rob Clarick '83; Tim Hughes '83; and Ed Koral '83. In summer 2021, the RML took a four baseball-city road trip and visited Cleveland (and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum), Cincinnati, Chicago (Wrigley Field) and Milwaukee. See the nearby photo!"

On behalf of all your classmates I thank you for your contribution to the well-being of our city!

We received a wonderful communique from **Sam Silver** LAW'85: "It was nice to see everyone at our 40th reunion. I am retired from the practice of law and doing a lot of skiing in the winters. Plus, I contribute extensively to Wikipedia and still enjoy performing in musical theater."

Next this period, we received a note from **Jim Geoly.** I must say, I found this note really heartwarming to read.

"Professionally, I wound up as a lawyer in Chicago. After 35 years of practice in law firms, two years ago I became general counsel of the Archdiocese of Chicago, which I love. It's an interesting and fulfilling job at a very challenging time for the Catholic Church, which is embarking on an effort to reenergize its mission in this country. I'm glad to be part of it.

"Personally, I have a wonderful wife and seven (yes, seven) kids. The youngest is 9, so unlike others in our class, I'm still going to elementary school conferences!

"Lastly, I continue to believe that my education at Columbia was the most valuable learning experience of my life. Even in law, I draw more on what I learned at Columbia than on what I learned in law school, because of the focus on critical thinking and the expansion of our world view. In my 60s, I still miss the environment at Columbia and my friends from that part of my life. And, like all of us, I still miss Mama Joy's. My favorite was the brisket with hot red peppers and extra gravy."

Thanks, Jim!

Also checking in this time is our stalwart classmate **Skip Parker** BUS'91 with some info on the 40th reunion: "Special thanks to Brian Krisberg '81, LAW'84, who hosted the nicest evening of our 40th reunion last June. A number of us attended, and Brian had the foresight to invite the Barnard Class of 1982 alumnae, who provided a festive touch for the gathering. The Class of '82 dinner was lightly attended and held in a sub-optimal room at Faculty House.

"My wife and I still live in Greenwich, Conn., and travel regularly. Last May I resigned from UBS to form my own independent wealth advisory practice in Greenwich, and I anticipate working another decade. I am a District 5 member of the Representative Town meeting and serve as senior warden of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Riverside. I sing with the church choir, the University Glee Club (founded by Columbia College grads in 1873), the Greenwich Choral Society and the Columbia Alumni Singers. In late September, I sang the national anthem with 25 glee club members at Citi Field prior to a Mets game!"

Thanks for the update! My wife, who grew up in the shadow of Shea Stadium, is profoundly jealous!

FRANCISCO NAVARRO '82

Some members of the "Roach Motel League" watched the Cleveland Indians take on the Houston Astros at Cleveland's Progressive Field on July 21, 2021. Left to right: Francisco Navarro '82, Nat Saffran '20, Mark Allen '81, Jessica Foster and Larry Hardin '83.

Meeting up at Columbia Reunion 2022 on June 6 were, left to right: Eric Altholz '82, Jonathan Fox '82 and Wallace Wentink '82.

Our globe-trotting and accomplished humanitarian classmate **Tom O'Keefe** sent in the following interesting note: "After a 16-year absence, I again find myself working on a U.S. Agency for International Development project in the West Indies, only this time as chief of party for the Caribbean Business Enabling Environment Reform project, based in Barbados. In 2005–06 I lived in Antigua and worked on trade-related issues in the Eastern Caribbean. This time the project is broader in scope. Among other issues, it is looking at ways to attract renewable energy investments to promote energy security and enhance resilience as ever-stronger hurricanes due to climate change knock out electricity grids for weeks on end."

Important work indeed!

Our esteemed classmate **Paul Riordan** also checked in to wish everyone well: "My wife, Mary, and I have been living in Shrewsbury, Mass., for 25 years and have raised four children, all in their 20s now. The best part about having adult children has been having a grandson, Connor (2), who visited for Halloween. We are hoping for more!

"I retired from P&G/Gillette a few years ago and work in marketing for Foster Grant Sunglasses and Readers.

"I hope all is well with the rest of the CC'82 team. Best wishes and good health to all!"

My good friend **Wallace Wentink** wrote that he had "an enjoyable evening with **Eric Altholz** SIPA'83 and **Jonathan Fox,** and their respective spouses, on the Friday evening of Columbia Reunion 2022." See the nearby photo!

Following up on Wally's note, Eric wrote: "It's true — the three of us and our respective spouses had a wonderful dinner at Tessa during reunion. Of course, as early '80s graduates, we declined to attend the formal class dinner that same night. Jonathan and I did attend the welcoming lunch on Friday, at which we encountered not one classmate. Jonathan and I also had lunch at Community with **Evan Charkes** on Saturday afternoon.

"In the photo of Wally, Jonathan and me, there is a gap between me and Jonathan to acknowledge the absence of Amelia Zalcman BC'82, who was under the weather."

Thanks to all for writing in!

1983

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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My son David '26, my wife and I attended the Homecoming game, with its loss to Dartmouth. I ran into **Andrew Barth** and his son, Andy Barth Jr. '16, BUS'23 at the pre-game lunch. I also attended the wedding of Marc Ripp '80, LAW'83's daughter Elena Ripp SEAS'14. Elena's sister, Brandi '12, and her grandfather

DR. DEBORAH GAHR

Celebrating with Marc Ripp '80 (seated, far left) at the October 23 wedding of his daughter Elena Ripp SEAS'14 were, seated, left to right: the groom, Igor Shneider; the bride; and her sister, Brandi Ripp '12; and standing, left to right: Dr. Daniel Pahl '14, Kayla van de Bunt '14, Diane Wang SEAS'14, Michael Ramadei '13, Jessica Geiger '14, Roy Pomerantz '83, Alex Wallach GSAPP'12, Yael Willner '14 and Ken Robinson LAW'83.

Joseph Ripp '48, GSAS'49 are also alumni. (See the nearby photo.)

Jeffrey Walker: "My son Harris '21 graduated in December 2020. It was a great experience for him, brought us closer and made it clear that I needed to stop talking about how important the school was to me and do something.

"Through Harris and one of his close friends, I was fortunate to encounter a program that is doing important work with NYC high school kids. There is an immediate need for financial support. I hope you will find it as compelling as I do and reach out. The Freedom and Citizenship program is a humanities-based education program that was launched in 2009 as a partnership between Columbia's Department of American Studies and the Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center. There are many aspects to F&C's story, but the most important are:

"Mission: To introduce dedicated New York City public-high-school students (primarily those who are low income, attend underperforming high schools and are likely to be the first in their family to go to college) to college-level work in the humanities. The goal is to prepare them for lives as active, informed citizens,while offering a path and guidance to applying to and getting into college. As of today, more than 400 students have attended F&C, at no financial cost to them.

"Method: Students live on campus for a month in the summer and attend a seminar program modeled on Contemporary Civilization. They are introduced to everything from Plato and Aristotle to the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. The program is taught by a combination of seminar instructors and guest lecturers across multiple humanities disciplines.

"Last summer, I sat in on a class on the Civil War led by Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69. It was amazing.

"F&C goes far beyond a classroom program. It stays with the students and monitors them during their senior year in high school. The program runs a nine-month after-school project in civic leadership that every student participates in, while offering college-application support (including helping to secure letters of recommendation and other important foundational elements critical to getting into college.)

"Results: In short, spectacular (as were the students I met).

- 100 percent of students have received college acceptances since 2010;
- 99 percent of students complete college within six years;
- more F&C students major in humanities and social sciences than their peers do (not that we don't need more data scientists, but how great to be exposed to so much of what the world has to offer when you are in college?); and
- enhanced civic participation, including significantly higher rates of voter registration and involvement in political campaigns.

"Need: At its peak, 45 students are admitted each year. However, current funding considerations might result in the program being reduced by a third, from 45 students to 30. F&C is working diligently to find ways to increase awareness of the program and to garner support for what is clearly an outstanding commitment to NYC and its most important asset: the next generation.

"There is an active effort to increase F&C's endowment to support the operational needs of the program and help implement the program model at other colleges and universities, including at Yale and the University of Rochester. My family is committed to supporting F&C and I am working to broaden awareness of the program in both the Columbia universe and the foundation and philanthropic world. As a NYC public school student who benefited deeply from the education and exposure to the Core, I cannot think of anything more important than F&C."

Kevin Chapman: "My wife, Sharon, and I recently returned from a bucket-list trip to Hawaii (finally traveling again post-Covid-19) and are preparing to celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary in May (coincides with our 40th reunion!). Meanwhile, the fourth book in my Mike Stoneman Thriller series, *Fatal Infraction,* was named the number 1 Police Procedural of 2021 and winner of the CLUE Award, and is a Finalist (top five) for the 2022 Kindle Book Award. My newest novel, *Dead Winner,* is now available in paperback, hardcover and audiobook, and as a Kindle ebook. This writing gig has really turned into a passion and a retirement plan. And, the icing on the cake is that our youngest son, Ross '18, graduated from Boston University School of Law, our law alma mater, as valedictorian in May and is planning an August 2023 wedding. There will be much to celebrate in the Chapman family this summer. We wish all our Columbia friends a festive post-Covid year ahead!"

Allen Shelton: "I am celebrating my 21st year as a pastor in northern New Jersey, where I live. I am also celebrating as an educator focusing on high school students. During my time at Columbia, I participated in the Debate Club and the Speech Club, touring the Northeast. I still use these skills in my work as a pastor."

James Reginato: "My latest book, *Growing Up Getty: The Story of America's Most Unconventional Dynasty,* was recently published. I am delighted to report that it has received excellent reviews in, among other places, *The New York Times* ('"Growing Up Getty" Shakes the Dust off a Family's Aristocratic Name') and NPR's *Morning Edition* ('A Billion Here, A Billion there. A New Book Tells the Story of J. Paul Getty'). *Vanity Fair,* where I am writer-at-large, excerpted it. Fellow Columbians, I hope you will pick up a copy!

"Otherwise, I still reside, after all these years, in the West Village. I'd be happy to hear from classmates."

Honoring Claire C. Shipman '86 at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner on November 17 at Low Rotunda were, left to right: Michael Schmidtberger '82; Sina Ahdoot '23; Dr. Allen Hyman '55; Janet Lorin '95; Schmidtberger's wife, Margie Sung; and Roy Pomerantz '83.

Ken Chin: “I got my Fall 2022 issue of *CCT.* The shocking piece was that the 40th reunion is coming up, meaning we were there more than 40 years ago.”

Ed Joyce is now president of the Fordham Law Alumni Association.

In preparation for the March 2022 memorial service for Gerald Sherwin ’55, I contacted several of his classmates. Dr. Allen Hyman ’55 was previously the senior physician at Columbia University Irving Medical Center/NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital and a tremendous supporter of CC. Allen and I have become friends, and I escorted him to the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner on November 17. I also have remained close to Sina Ahdoot ’23, who attended the Summer Sendoff at my apartment before starting at Columbia. Sina was recently named a 2022 CAA Scholar, and sat at our table at the dinner. (See the nearby photo.)

I am proud to be the link between CC graduates from 1955 to current students.

Love to all! Everywhere!

1984

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Congratulations, **Richard Manion**, on publishing yet another fabulous monograph of your exceptional life’s work in architecture. In *Streamlined,* Richard’s internationally acclaimed designs for the world’s rich and famous are beautifully photographed for all to see. It’s truly a magnificent gift: Thank you, Richard!

Todd Sussman is the liner notes editor for Barbra Streisand’s new album, *Live at the Bon Soir.* Recorded at the tiny, upscale Greenwich Village nightclub in November 1962, this was designed to be Streisand’s first solo release. However, once the recording was completed, Streisand and Columbia Records opted to go with a studio album instead, and the live album went into the vaults … until now. The release is timed to celebrate Streisand’s 60th anniversary as a Columbia Records artist. Todd is proud to have worked on this historic project, which includes a lavish 32-page booklet containing the liner notes and rare, archival photos.

In addition, Todd also wrote the cover story for the November/December 2022 issue of *Cabaret Scenes* magazine, offering an in-depth look at Streisand’s new album. The piece features exclusive recollections from three individuals who were at the Bon Soir in 1962: 1) longtime manager Marty Erlichman; 2) lyricist Alan Bergman, who with his wife, Marilyn (now deceased), wrote more songs released by Streisand than any other songwriter; and 3) yes … Streisand herself! This special issue marks the first time she has appeared on the cover in the magazine’s 28-year history. *Cabaret Scenes* is the only print publication in the world that focuses on the excitement of cabaret and its performers. Todd wrote the cover headline, “Introducing Barbra Streisand,” to accompany a vintage photo of Barbra at the Bon Soir, as if the issue was being released back in 1962. Copies might still be available at cabaretscenes.org, with proceeds benefiting the nonprofit American Songbook Association. Write to Todd at toddaos@aol.com.

Last September, **David Cowan** received the Ronald M. George Award for Judicial Excellence from the Beverly Hills Bar Association. This award is named after the former Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and recipients have been very prominent jurists. “I have sat on the Los Angeles Superior Court for 17 years, initially as a court commissioner, and since Gov. Jerry Brown appointed me, as a judge. I have heard criminal, family, probate and civil cases and served as the supervising judge of both the Probate Department and Civil Department, the latter of which is composed of more than 150 judges.

Attending this special event, along with David’s wife, Libby Kauper, was his “local Columbia gang:” David Schwarz ’83, Cary Berger ’85 and Christopher Mount ’85.

Wayne Weddington III celebrated his 60th in Dubrovnik with his wife, Gabrijela; son Augustus (18 months old at the time); Alain Kodsi ’86; and Imran Shah SEAS’84.

Wayne writes: “If there is any consolation to the advanced passage of time as one ages, it is the joy of sharing it with the love of family and great friends. … It is important in life to take inventory of one’s angels periodically … to remember the advocates or pivotal relationships that helped define one at his/her best. I have been blessed with many. Many were at Columbia, including Karl Okamoto ’82, LAW’85.”

PHIL SOHN

Langham Gleason ’84 (left) celebrated his 60th birthday on October 1 with close friends in Corpus Christi including John Soulis ’83 (center) and Marco de Sa e Silva ’82.

Finally, at Homecoming this past fall, which yours truly sadly could not attend, dear friends **Robert Zecker** and **Jim Weinstein** were kind enough to check in during the event and report on the new “spirit band” that made its debut. My beloved Marching Band met its demise at the outset of Covid-19.

“Roar, Lion, Roar” and “Who Owns New York?” once again woke the echoes of the Hudson Valley.

1985

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We got a few updates for this cycle, but would love to hear from more of us.

As my note indicated, as our class approaches a milestone birthday (a number divisible by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 30 and 60), I wanted to know how you are adjusting to life in general, interacting with Columbia and the like.

Our updates touched on a lot of these themes.

After 35 years of investment banking (JPMorgan, Lazard and BofA), **Larry Slaughter** recently became a full-time wine maker in Provence. “Château de Mille is in the heart of the region, between Bonnieux and Apt. It is the oldest winery in the region, first cited in the Papal archives in 1238. It is fully organic, making red, white and rosé wines, with 25 hectares under production. We have a good harvest this season (notwithstanding the water shortfall) and are looking forward to building our U.S. wine distribution network. We have a daughter and son (CC’19) living and working in NYC and another son in London. “

Andrew Hayes LAW’89 and his wife, Monica SIPA’91, enjoyed Family Days this past October, particularly a talk by an Engineering professor on creating sustainable communities, with Manhattanville and West Harlem as testing and research areas.

Erik Gaull ran the Berlin Marathon in September (tied his PR of 4:36:32 to the second) and was to run the Philadelphia Marathon in late November. This was to be followed by a visit to Tuscany for a friend’s birthday and then Munich for Oktoberfest. In October, Erik spent two weeks in Ukraine helping train Ukrainian medical providers in trauma care.

Another adjustment as we age includes growing our families. Congratulations to two very dear friends: **Lane Palmer**, on the wedding of his daughter Samantha to fellow doctor Jacob Greenberg, and **John Phelan**, on the wedding of his daughter Unity to fellow dancer Cameron Dieck.

As for yours truly, I was happy to spend Labor Day with my favorite John Jay juggler, baby toy distributor and fellow class correspondent, Roy Pomerantz ’83. I find greater desire to reconnect with friends from near and far, and to try not to be "hyperfocused" on work alone. I was able to get to Atlanta and Alabama for a really cool trip among the civil rights landmarks in this area, including a walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, and Sunday services at Ebenezer Baptist Church. I also had a business trip to Costa Rica to see coffee and the environs. In the post-pandemic world I hope to travel more to Europe, go back to Israel, go to Alaska and travel through more National Parks. I had a great trip with my youngest son through six ballparks last summer, including a "catch" on a certain movie set/baseball diamond in Iowa. Unfortunately my season ended too early, in October.

Here's to a happy and healthy 2023!

1986

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Ken Stuzin BUS'93: "I've been in Baltimore for 25 years at an investment firm that I helped start, Brown Advisory. My daughters are Maddie '19 and Devon '21, who also played varsity lacrosse for Columbia. It's evidently something garnered from the drinking water in this town! I also have a son, Jack, who unfortunately has gone off to that vocational school in New Haven, where he too is a varsity lacrosse player, with an expected graduation year of 2025. My wife, Anne, and I recently celebrated our 30th anniversary, and it's worth noting that our first formal date was a Columbia-Dartmouth football game. She too bleeds light blue!

"I still see a fair number of old Lions; **Mike Gilligan**, **Steve Stuart**, **Larry Walsh** and **Dave Silvera**, to name a few of the lads from rowing and football. We have a country house in the Adirondack Mountains, in the town of Keene Valley, and spend a good chunk of the summer there, so if you're in the neighborhood, look us up! You can't miss the 40-foot flagpole flying the old Columbia crown!"

David Poppe writes: "I retired at the end of 2018 as co-manager of the Sequoia Fund and an executive at its parent company after a 20-year tenure. After a wonderful year off that included seeing the band The National in concert eight times, I launched a boutique investment manager, Giverny Capital Asset Management, with a Montreal-based partner. Just in time for the pandemic. I'm having a lot of fun in this role, uncooperative stock market notwithstanding. My wife, Cherie Henderson SPS'14, JRN'21, a former journalist, is closing in on earning a Ph.D. in communications at the Journalism School. And our son Doug graduated summa cum laude (bragging!) from Tufts in 2021 and is heading his own indie rock band, An Triangles, based in Boston. First album out this year!

"I recently caught up with fellow Carman 7 alum **Scott Weber** in Dallas. Scott's practicing trusts and estates law there and looks the same as he did in fall 1982."

Peter Oxman: "I practice real estate law as a partner with Seyfarth Shaw, although I now work on a fully remote basis. In 2019, my wife, Sondra, and I bought and renovated the 1896 Oscar and Mary Walker House in Galveston, Texas. We intended to use it as a weekend retreat, but we love our Galveston neighborhood so much we sold our house in Houston and relocated full time to Galveston. In fall 2021, we bought the 1894 Adolph and Augusta Helmann cottage, two doors down from our home, and completed renovations in early spring 2022. We use the cottage as a short-term rental. Both houses survived the infamous 1900 Storm (the worst natural disaster in U.S. history). Last June, the properties were featured on the Galveston Historic Foundation's annual Historic Homes Tour, with more than 5,000 people touring the homes across two weekends. This past fall, we received Historic Preservation Awards from GHF for the rehab of the houses.

"I keep in touch with a number of my FIJI brothers, including Cory Weinbel SEAS'84, SEAS'85, who lives in North Houston with his wife, Debbie. Cory's son David and my son Chris became friends while attending Sam Houston State together. In 2021, while on a business trip to San Francisco, I had dinner with Louie Napoli '83, **Steve Marder** and Randy Bessolo '87."

Tom Marrinson: "I'm in my 15th year as a partner in the Insurance Recovery Group at Reed Smith, working out of its Chicago office. All three of our children have now graduated from college, with our daughter having graduated from the University of San Diego last May. I am teaching my second term of 'Mediation and Mediation Advocacy' as an adjunct professor at University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, starting this January. I really enjoy teaching thus far, though creating a syllabus was way more work than I thought it would be."

Please share your news with me and the class via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

1987

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This past fall I received a breaking news alert from *The Washington Post* informing me of **Leslie Vosshall**'s latest research discovery — that if one is a mosquito magnet it is likely based on the way one smells! According to the article, Leslie, the chief scientific officer at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, and her colleagues at Rockefeller University in New York City, found that "people who have higher levels of certain acids on their skin are 100 times more attractive to the female *Aedes aegypti*, the type of mosquito responsible for spreading diseases such as dengue, chikungunya, yellow fever and Zika." The findings were published in the journal *Cell* and have the potential to lead to new products that could mask human odors that in turn could curb the spread of mosquito-borne illnesses.

Way to go, Leslie!

Sharon Block writes: "Last spring I left the Biden White House, where I headed the regulatory policy office, and headed back to Harvard Law School, where I will teach labor and administrative law and running a labor policy program."

Congrats, Sharon!

In sad news, **Melanie Roche** passed away on September 29, 2022, at her home in The Hague, The Netherlands. Her husband, James, wrote that in lieu of flowers, Melanie requested contributions to be made to Human Genome Foundation, a nonprofit that helps patients with rare diseases get the best treatments possible and furthers research. The founder was a friend of Melanie's, and this is a cause Melanie believed in very much. You will see the donate button on the website: humangenomefoundation.org. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1988

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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Steve Stastny is a partner in the national law firm Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, attached to its Birmingham and New Orleans offices. Steve has a varied litigation practice and has been AV-rated for more than 20 years. He first appeared in Best Lawyers in America in 2006. Steve is married to the former Lauren Olvey. They have two sons, John Michael (20) and Ross (17). He wrote, "I am president of my temple here in New York and have been fortunate to have the time to volunteer for the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue for many years."

I recall a time when classmate weddings were an opportunity for Columbia friends to reunite. We've now moved on to classmates' children's weddings, it would appear. **Doug Wolf** recently attended the wedding of a classmate's daughter and had a chance to catch up with several fellow alums from the College and Engineering.

Speaking of our children reaching milestones, congratulations to **Laura Norman**, who reported from San Francisco that her daughter Mia Raneri SEAS'26 is at Columbia.

Best of luck to Mia on her Columbia journey.

Joe Wanner retired from his real estate and property management company.

Jonny Roskes offered some kind reflections on our late valedictorian, **Sherry Colb.** "Sherry was my Hartley suitemate our senior year. Upstairs in the suite was a reasonably low-key crew; downstairs was a bunch of boisterous, fun football players. So you can just imagine —

'Never the twain met.' At graduation, I said what I felt at the time (and still feel) to Sherry's mom: She wasn't just the smartest in our class; she was also the nicest. Two and a half years later, I danced (badly) at her wedding. Sherry was something special." [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

Keep the updates coming! We look forward to hearing from you.

1989

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When my husband, Dave Terry '90, and I took our two oldest kids to college a few years ago, I was struck by the flood of memories it elicited of my first day at Columbia, when I was dropped off by my mother and met my Carman 11 suitemates. **Matt Engels** just dropped off his eldest and he shot me this note: "When dropping Ellie for her first year at University of Wisconsin-Madison I was swept back to moving into Carman 11 in the fall 1985. Not sure it sunk in, but I told Ellie how just next door and across the hall from me were three of my most dear and best friends — **Amy Weinreich Rinzler, Elisabeth Socolow** and Emily — and that Ellie should be on the lookout for her lifelong friends next door or down the hall. I told her how even though we were all from vastly different areas — one from Westchester County, one from New York City via Princeton and one from California's Orange County, and me from north suburban Chicago, we bonded over late-night Chinese food (chicken and snow peas for Elisabeth), cheering for and playing freshman football and being together as we transitioned from high school to college at a great time to be at Columbia and in New York City."

Jason Carter '89 is the U.S. representative to a law enforcement committee at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

Cristina Mitchell GS'93 wrote: "It certainly has been an interesting and challenging two-plus years in primary care! I have learned a skill — telehealth — and am lucky to work for an organization that was able to pivot quickly to remote medicine. I am grateful to all my emergency and hospital medicine colleagues, as I was relatively protected during the initial surge of Covid-19.

"During the first year of the pandemic, I worked mostly from home, something that I never really imagined doing as a family doctor, and gradually added back time in the office. Once vaccines were available, I did a lot of vaccinating, mostly through city-run clinics. During the 2021–22 school year, I mentored an awesome alum, Sam Mickel '14, in his third year at Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University (though I never really saw the lower half of his face)!

"And on the homefront, my daughter, Ellie, is in her junior year at Brown, and loves it despite the lack of curriculum."

Gil Greenman has published on Amazon a memoir, *A Fortunate Man With MS,* his story of living with multiple sclerosis. Gil went to Harvard Law and went on to a career as a lawyer. He praises his Columbia education: "The approaches of the Core and the history courses that I took from likes of Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69 and Jim Shenton '49, GSAS'54 were just what I needed to hone my writing and research skills."

Just do a search for Gil's name on Amazon, and the book will pop up.

For the last 30 years **Michael Glikes** has served as a federal employee at the U.S. EPA. Of this he writes, "I register nontoxic, biological pesticides that promise to replace more toxic pesticides, which might cause cancer and kill wildlife. While monetary compensation isn't [equal to] what others collect in law, medicine and finance, I love helping to protect human health and the environment. And now after 30 years in Washington D.C., I recently moved to Fort Lauderdale thanks to the acceptance of remote telework."

Also, in the making-the-world-better category, I heard from **Minh N. Vu,** who as a partner with Seyfarth Shaw specializes in Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Fair Housing Act. "While I do represent businesses when they get sued, I also advise them on a variety of compliance issues that result in greater access for individuals with disabilities to facilities, goods and services offered by public accommodations and housing."

Jason Carter has some interesting career stories to share. He is "in my 27th consecutive year as an attorney at the Department of Justice, where I am an associate director managing our cooperation with Europe and Central Asia on criminal justice matters (extradition, evidence gathering and the negotiation of relevant treaties). As I type this email on my phone, I am packing to head to London tonight to meet with British prosecutors this week. And in two weeks, I head to France, where I am the U.S. representative to a law enforcement committee at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg. I also will soon be in NYC more often as my wife, Dorothy, a Cornell grad, was assigned to an attorney job at the United Nations. Classmates and friends can find me in D.C., Manhattan or Bethany Beach, Del., when I'm not traveling abroad!"

Someone else who has got to have some good stories to share as well, **Lorne Teitelbaum,** wrote: "After 30 years working in the U.S. intelligence community and the past year working for the White House on the National Security Council, in November I started an assignment as the professor of intelligence and national security at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. I teach third- and fourth-year midshipmen about U.S. intelligence and how it supports U.S. policymakers and military operations. It won't be the same as teaching young Columbia Lions, but I was looking forward to teaching future naval officers about the intelligence community and what it does."

Heidi Wolpow SEAS'90 "recently returned from trip to Italy with my husband. We went to Venice, Florence and Rome. Each city was so beautiful and interesting in its own unique way. I found myself thinking back to our Columbia days quite a bit, specifically what we learned in the Core. In the artwork there were so many references to what we learned, bringing back memories of all the Greek poets and philosophers we read about in Lit Hum. And I felt fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from such good professors (I remember Professor James Mirollo!). I also realized how much I forgot and added to my list of goals to relearn some of what we learned, but certainly with a different, more adult perspective."

And to close out, I heard from **Meg Lockwood,** who is in the Bay Area working in digital payments. Meg has a senior in high school and a son, Benjamin '25: "He writes for *Spec* and is rowing heavyweight crew this year so he's busy but loving it," Meg wrote.

And as we can all attest from our shared Columbia experience, being a student was pretty wonderful.

Enjoy it, Benjamin!

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
youngrache@hotmail.com

Exciting update from **Margaret Robison:** "While most of our classmates are becoming empty nesters, I had my second child, Mariel, in August. Her brother, Carson, and I are so happy to have an addition to the family. We live in Manhattan, where I have been for the majority of time since graduation. I switched careers from tech startups and advisory services to venture/private equity firms to financial advisory about 10 years ago and have been able to stay involved as a volunteer with my son's schools as well as with Columbia. I recently became the president of Columbia College Women, and some of the Alumni Office staff outfitted Mariel with Columbia gear just in time for her debut at Homecoming. Several CC'90 friends visited her, including **Karena O'Riordan, Lisa Dabney, Craig Nobert, Judy Shampanier, Brian Kennedy** and **Dean Temple. Hayley Jares Kondon, Kirsten Mellor** and Lisa Feldman Babel BC'90 have been my California support team throughout."

Jonathan Penders and **Brooke Penders** happily celebrated their

25th wedding anniversary in October. Separate from that, they had the unexpected and joyful occasion of meeting up with **Chris Millward** and his beautiful family on the Eastern Shore of Maryland last April.

I know everyone joins me in extending a huge congratulations to **EveAnna Manley**, president of Manley Laboratories, for being honored last June at the 2022 She Rocks Awards, which honors women in the music and audio industries. EveAnna was presented with the Mad Skills award for her many achievements in the industry. I encourage you to read more about her: sherocksawards.com/2022-honorees.

In other entertainment news, **Rick Minnich**'s latest feature documentary, *The Strait Guys,* was released theatrically throughout Germany on June 2. It tells the story of the 76-year-old Czech-born mining engineer George Koumal, who was on a mission to connect the United States and Russia with a 100-km train tunnel beneath the Bering Strait. [Editor's note: Koumal died on April 16, 2022, at 80.] In the film, Rick travels along the proposed railroad route through Alaska and Siberia with George and his fast-talking protégé, Scott, as they endeavor to convince international governments, corporations and Indigenous tribes to greenlight their $100 billion railway project, with the promise to become the Panama Canal of the 21st century.

On November 5, Dr. Jennifer Ashton '91 married Tom Werner, a TV producer and co-owner of the Liverpool Football Club, Boston Red Sox and Pittsburgh Penguins.

With *The Strait Guys,* Rick fulfilled a lifelong dream to travel to the American island of Little Diomede in the middle of the Bering Strait, where he looked into tomorrow at the Russian island Big Diomede only two miles away, on the other side of the International Dateline. The documentary is playing film festivals around the world, and was be released in the U.S. in late 2022 or early 2023.

Time for another update from **Peter Neisuler.** "My wife, Mariana, and I have been serving at the U.S. Embassy in Israel, living in Tel Aviv, since 2019, spanning both the Trump and Biden administrations with lots of VIP visits and policy developments. (Prior we were in Amman, so we've been working on both sides of the Jordan River since 2016.) Mariana is the deputy economic counselor and I have been covering Iran and counterterrorism in the political section, but recently moved to public affairs, running the ambassador's social media.

"Our older son, Alex, began at Boston University in August, likely majoring in political science (following in our footsteps, especially if he takes the Foreign Service exam). Our younger son, Martin, is in 12th grade and is all about science, particularly molecular biology and cancer research. We'll head back to Washington, D.C., in the summer for training and from there will figure out where we go next."

My turn for some professional news. Last July, I changed employers but not careers. I like to say that in addition to trading religious affiliations (Episcopal/Jewish), I switched letters, going from NCS (National Cathedral School) to CESJDS (Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School). A highlight for me, albeit possibly not for my 10th-grade daughter, whose tenure at CESJDS is a year longer than mine, is that she and I drive to/from school together every day.

I end this column on a sad note. Dr. **Chris Ahmad SEAS'90** writes that on September 18, 2022, the Columbia men's soccer family lost one of its brothers, **Christopher P. Ziadie,** to lung cancer. Chris was a captain of the soccer team, a three-time All-Ivy team performer and a first team All-Region midfielder. Chris was born on July 8, 1967, in Kingston, Jamaica, and played high school soccer with top players, including Ziggy Marley, a musician and a son of Bob Marley. They won back-to-back Manning Cup titles together in 1983 and 1984, as well as the Olivier Shield in 1984. Ziggy offered condolences to Chris' family and friends on Instagram, saying, "… the bonds we made during the years of playing soccer together, traveling, eating, walking the streets, laughing and sometimes fighting can never be broken by distance or time: JAH guide your spirits home …" Andrew Price, another member of that team wrote, "Glad we could have shared such great memories from childhood to adults. To know you is to love you. Walk good Christopher P. Ziadie. I will miss the camaraderie, your realistic mentality, the don't give a two hoots attitude, your zest for life. I will keep the fire burning in your honor Bro🔥🔥🔥🔥. RIP Cee Zee. One Love Forever❤."

It can fairly be said that Chris' Columbia teammates and friends recognize him in these warm and heartfelt statements and share these sentiments. After graduating from the College, Chris continued his soccer career, representing the Jamaican national team six times between 1992 and 1993. He came from a footballing family that includes his father, the late Dennis Ziadie, a former Jamaican international player and coach who coached Chris through his childhood but died far too young in a bus crash in Mexico during the 1986 World Cup Finals. This tragedy affected Chris greatly. After retirement from the Jamaican national team, Chris went into soccer management, and was named assistant coach of the Jamaica Under-20 squad in 1999. Prior to that he was coach of Real Mona and was also head coach at Waterhouse FC.

Chris is survived by his loving daughter and son, and another former Columbia soccer great, his brother Nick Ziadie '91. Memorial services were held October 9 in Pembroke Pines, Fla. Those wishing to leave thoughts or remembrances can visit wilcoxffh.com/obituaries/Christopher-Ziadie/#!/Obituary. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1991

Heather E.G. Brownlie
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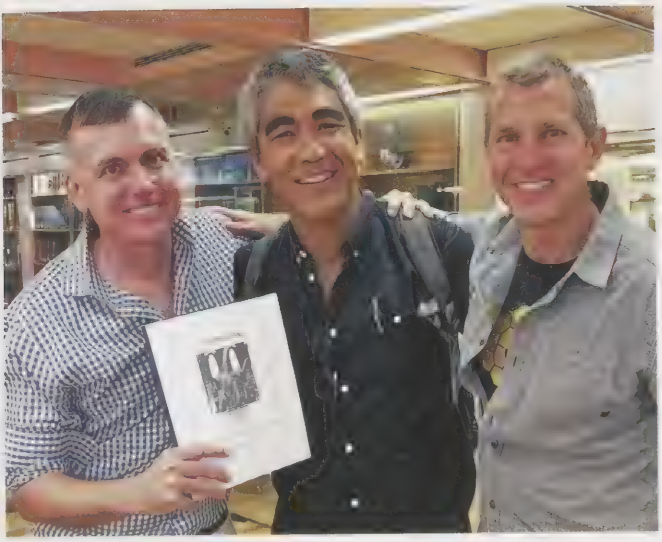
Greetings, classmates! I really appreciate all the news and notes and look forward to hearing from more of you this year!

Dr. **Jennifer Ashton** PS'00, HN'16 shared her amazing news: "I am happy to announce some exciting news that has come out of the pandemic. On November 5, I married Tom Werner, television producer, chair of Fenway Sports Group and co-owner of Liverpool Football Club, the Boston Red Sox and the Pittsburgh Penguins. Our wedding took place at The Harmonie Club with the reception at The Temple of Dendur at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, which I frequented as an art history major! Tom's great-grandfather x 12 generations is Gershom Mendes Seixas, who was the first native-born Jewish religious leader in the United States, participated in the inaugura-

Enjoying a whitewater rafting adventure on the Kennebec River at the Harris Station Dam in Northeast Somerset, Maine, on September 10 were, left to right: Michael Gitman '91, Bruce Mayhew '91, Earl McAlear '91, John Evans '91 and Sam Trotzky '91.



JOCELYN K. WILK

Commemorating the donation of the Existential Despair Archives to the Columbiana collection at Butler's Rare Book & Manuscript Library on June 10 were, left to right: Kevin O'Connor '92, Robert Guay '92 and Ben Appen '92.

tion of President Washington and was an elected trustee of King's College until 1815. Ours is a story that shows that love is possible the second time around and later in life!"

Congratulations to Jennifer!

Mark Bures and his family moved back from Rio de Janeiro to the United States and are now in Hermosa Beach, Calif., where they enjoy exploring the state and reconnecting with old friends.

John Evans submitted a photo from a "mini-reunion" that was held in early September. "Five of us got together at **Sam Trotzky**'s cabin in Otis, Maine, for a long weekend. The weather was fantastic and we really enjoyed ourselves. We did a ton of outdoor activities, including the one nearby: about to launch into whitewater rafting on the Kennebec River with Sam as our intrepid raft guide. YOLO!"

Please take a moment to send me your latest news and happenings, and I'll share them in a future issue. It has been so wonderful to hear from everyone! Please write to me at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Photos of minimum 750 kb that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum for "Just Married!" as long as a member of the couple — should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

1992

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Despairfest! Remember Despairfest? Well, the Existential Despair Archives are now part of the Columbiana collection at Butler's Rare Book & Manuscript Library, courtesy of Despairnauts **Bob Guay, Ben Appen** and **Kevin O'Connor.** Kevin wrote in with the "well-that-takes-me-back" news. See the nearby photo of the three at Butler!

My dear friend **Tamara Cochran** PS'97 reported, "I have now launched two kids into college and am trying out the empty-nester thing." She also dipped more than a toe in the water recently during a boating trip on Martha's Vineyard. "I had to SWIM, yes SWIM, on October 22 to save the anchor!" She shared photo evidence that the *CCT* rules don't permit me to share. (Did you know they require two CC alums, except for wedding photos? See college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.) Tamara says any classmates coming through Boston should give her a shout.

Steven Greenberg '93 dropped me a line to say he "had the wonderful opportunity to bump into **Michael Sant'Ambrogio** at the airport in Detroit in the midst of summer 2022 travel nightmares." Michael is a professor of law and senior associate dean for faculty and academic affairs at Michigan State University. "Fortunately for Michael, he made it to New York City after some delay. For me and my travels to Maine, not so much. Had to catch a ride back to Florida in the middle of the night, which seemed more appealing than an evening on the suspect floors of DTW."

Steven also met up with Joe Del Toro '93 in Warsaw in fall 2021, "where we enjoyed a leisurely day off from work catching up and gorging on pierogis."

Steven is "still" a director at Cherry AG, "dreaming up ideas in gaming keyboards and mice in Nuremberg while running a law practice in Florida and Belgium directed to the management of global patent portfolios. I have a 2-and-a-half-year-old, a 14-year-old and a 17-year-old with Dartmouth aspirations. Help!"

I wish I could have attended this: **Tom Linton SEAS'92** (and fellow Carman 7er) gave a nice account of an early-October multi-class reunion of Phi Epsilon Pi members at a ranch in Texas Hill Country.

"Participating in the foosball playing, wine tasting, pig roasting, political discourse, baseball watching and ax throwing were Tom, **Jennifer Aninger, Mark Collier, Steve Kramer, Daniel Miron** and **Brian Trisler,** along with seven other Phi Eppers from the Classes of '89 to '95. Brian and Mark were the (nearly) undefeated foosball champions."

Other attendees were Jennifer Carmona '91, J.J. Cromer '90, Marc Hanes '89, Marc LeVarn '90, Jonathan Mooser '94, Alex Mummery '95, Anna Weiss '91 and Andre Chan SEAS'04.

Peter Hatch caught up, on a trip to Los Angeles, with several classmates who couldn't make it to reunion.

"**Jeff Noles,** my freshman-year roommate, hosted me. The second company he founded, LabStar, was acquired recently, so he is enjoying a bit more time to ride with former Columbia Cycling teammates and had time to build armor for his son's *Mandalorian* Halloween costume."

Tim Griffin and Peter went "to see a performance by an art collective he supported when he was director of The Kitchen."

Peter and L.A. mayor/nominee-to-be ambassador to India (not yet confirmed as I write this in November) **Eric Garcetti** SIPA'93 "hiked the hills in Griffith Park and looked out over the many projects he got built during his two terms."

Dae Levine BC'92, who was completing her second tour of duty as Eric's chief communications officer, "joined us and we commiserated about life after City Hall."

That's it for now, but please email me with any professional or personal updates!

1993

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Neil Turitz
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God bless you, you motley crew of miscreants. When I demand updates, you come through in spades. I didn't even have to threaten that much this time, either! I view that as major progress.

Pavani Ram, who offered her first-ever update, leads Child Health and Immunization at the US Agency for International Development, where she works to end preventable child deaths and support essential immunization programs in low- and middle-income countries around the world. She lives in a leafy suburb of Buffalo, N.Y. with her husband, Raghu, son, Suneel (25), and daughters, Janani (16) and Nandini (13).

Another first-timer is **Bill Moormann,** who pastors at Lynwood Friends Church in Portland, Ore., where he has been for 24 years. "I hope," he says, "that one day I will know what I'm doing." He's been married for 27 years, with three kids 14–21, and is nostalgic for his CC days; he recently decided it was time to re-read *The Iliad.*

Old pal (and sophomore-year roommate!) **Marc Braveman** wrote, "I welcome anyone who is in New Mexico this winter to stop by for après ski in the hot tub or join me on the mountain!"

An attractive offer, indeed!

Another old friend and regular contributor to this space, **Rebecca Boston** SIPA'94, wanted to remind everyone that she lives in Baltimore, where she moved in 2020, right before the world shut down. "I'm working for a local government human resources office doing project management, most recently being the central person for all things Covid-19. After two and a half years as an empty-nester, I recently moved my 21-year-old son back in with me, and we are adjusting well."

Like me, she's excited to see a bunch of you at OUR 30TH REUNION, THURSDAY, JUNE 1–SATURDAY, JUNE 3 (and yes, plenty more about that to come, too).

One of the more unique updates came from **Joshua Spodek** GSAS'99, BUS'06, who has become a leader in sustainability. He reported that *The New Yorker* published a letter of his, and that, as part of his sustainability leadership work, he experimented with disconnecting his apartment in Manhattan from the electrical grid. At press time, he was well into his sixth month, and had dropped his pollution more than 90 percent. He now trains executives at oil companies and top-tier consulting companies; politicians, including conservatives; evangelicals; military and hardcore Trump supporters to act sustainably and become role models instead of resistors.

Way to go, Josh.

Jackie Quan writes, having just returned from running the TCS London Marathon for Breast Cancer Now, (she also ran the New York City marathon in 2021 for MSK/Fred's Team and the 2022 Paris Marathon), "Just for fun! I *never* was a runner but decided to run a little in the last few years and will run for charity ... as well as for a nice view of some cool city." She doesn't train much but preps for races by eating lots of pasta, rice, French fries and baguettes, which sounds a lot like *my* prep for races. Which I don't actually run. Or walk. Moving on.

Andrea Boykowycz lives in Pittsburgh, working at her local community development organization, advocating for more affordable housing and trying to empower folks with place-based organizing and public planning. To battle burnout, she restores old stained-glass windows in her basement on weekends, which sounds like both a lot of work and a lot of fun. "My sons (15 and 12) are of an artistic bent with really remarkable social consciousness — how come we were never that cool or aware when we were adolescents? The kids are alright."

Andrea is hopeful about making it to OUR 30TH REUNION, THURSDAY, JUNE 1–SATURDAY, JUNE 3 and is looking forward to seeing people.

Dave Shimkin and I have been friends since we worked on *Spec* together, and he shared that he was promoted in 2021 to shareholder at the law firm of Cozen O'Connor. He practices out of the firm's Los Angeles office, and is a litigator representing transportation and manufacturing clients in catastrophic personal injury cases.

Mazel tov, Dave, on the promotion.

It was fun to hear from **Jennifer Anglade Dahlberg,** whose third novel, *Summer on Nornö/Sommaren på Nornö*, was translated directly into Swedish and published in summer 2021 in Sweden, where she has lived for 25 years. The English version will be released this year, and she is working on a sequel. Jennifer is the alumni lead for the Columbia Alumni Association – Sweden, is the proud parent of Yasmine '23 and has enjoyed reliving the Columbia experience through her daughter, a sentiment I've been hearing from a lot of people lately.

Running out of space, so some rapid-fire updates: **Nina Hong** LAW'96 was installed last October as president-elect of the Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association.

Congrats, Nina!

Lara Simone Kass didn't really have anything newsworthy to report, but wanted to say hi and say that she loves hearing about everyone else.

And **Rita Pietropinto-Kitt** and **Nina Abraham Lieberman** both wrote that Nina's daughter Vera and Rita's daughter Julia are besties, went to drama camp together, and, as Rita says, "It's the cutest thing I've ever seen."

Both Rita and Nina, it should be noted, are planning to attend OUR 30TH REUNION, THURSDAY, JUNE 1–SATURDAY, JUNE 3. Are you?

I need to note the sad news about the passing of a classmate. Two people wrote me about **Srilakshmi "Sangeeth" Kottai Gnanasekaran** PS'00, PH'01. In the words of **Pavani Ram,** Sangeeth, who was married to Chris William '94, GSAS'02, PS'03, "was loved by all who knew her and demonstrated tremendous tenacity and grace during the last months of her illness, which was a complex clinical situation that included cancer but much more, as well. We look forward to remembering her with fellow Columbians at the 30th reunion."

My Music Hum classmate **Michele Ricci Bell** was the second person to write in about Sangeeth, with whom she lived in Washington, D.C., the year after we graduated. She also reported about herself, and said that she and her husband, Jim, live in Schenectady, N.Y., "with our beautiful 13-year-old-daughter, Iris. She is the center of our lives. She has Prader-Willi Syndrome, which plays a dominant role in our daily lives and long-term planning. We share so much joy and happiness, and have traveled near and far."

Joshua Spodek '93 has become a leader in sustainability and is experimenting with disconnecting his apartment in Manhattan from the electrical grid.

Michele is on the Board of Directors for the New York organization for PWS, Prader-Willi Alliance of New York, and is also involved with fundraising and grant-vetting for the Foundation for Prader-Willi Research, an international organization focused on developing medicines and other support for the PWS population.

In closing, I should mention that on the CC'93 Facebook group, I told people that if they didn't give me stuff to write about, then I'd just go ahead and make things up about them. I got a lot of laughter about that, but I'm not sure why. I wasn't kidding. I'll totally do it. So keep sending in updates! (Or else!)

1994

Kathryn Hudacek Harlow
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Leyla Kokmen deserves our infinite respect for having assembled the Class of 1994 Class Notes as class correspondent for nearly three decades. Cheers to Leyla for her commitment to our corps! You have provided an example to live up to.

I raised my hand for this position because the years have blessed me with friends, and connections to Columbia that don't necessarily involve those who were on campus at the same time as I. As an Alumni Representative Committee volunteer, I interviewed CC and SEAS applicants on two continents for two decades. Many talented students have passed through my notice. "Admits" ask for advice on how to best start their College experience. My answer? Cherish the friendships from the very beginning on campus; something special happens among those whom you first encounter in the big city. At Class Day, I recall pals I had met on the floor of their residence hall, usually the Carman floors, congregating for photos and seats together.

As for one of the *other* dorms, Shapiro Hall; my first-year home, we enjoyed a small number of CC'94s per floor and were certainly a much hipper crew. Our lives experienced reels of danger when crossing Broadway plus we got helpful pointers from upperclassmen who shared the halls with us. Would the John Jay and McBain denizens agree? The following alt-Carman residents wrote in:

After a 20-year career at the NYSE, **Patrick Armstrong** is director of sales for Carta (formally eShares) and enjoys life in Pacifica, Calif., with his partner, Fiona Monaghan. Oli, his oldest, attends The New School on a writing scholarship. Joseph, his youngest, attends UC Santa Barbara and pursues his passion for guitar.

Josh Levy SIPA'99, a managing partner at the law form Levy Firestone Muse in Washington, D.C., touches base from Kigali, Rwanda: "I co-founded Levy Firestone Muse, specializing in litigation and government investigations. We also have an office in Kigali, where our firm has been conducting investigations into the genocide against the Tutsi. At home in D.C., we represent clients caught up in Beltway dramas and other legal scrapes. Once a week, Georgetown Law allows me to teach the seminars 'Congressional Investigations' and 'Health Care Fraud and Abuse.' I half start to laugh any time a student calls me 'Professor.'

Abigail Davis is a real estate expert in Dallas.

Adam Michaels lives in Brooklyn with his wife, Nicole; stepson, Fynn; and cats. He has been practicing law for more than 20 years and heads the litigation practice at Hand Baldachin, a firm serving fashion and lifestyle companies. Adam has been virtually reliving key moments of his College experience in the faithful recreation of "Columbia University" in the Spider-Man PS4 game. Alas, no Mama Joy's deli to be found in the virtual landscape.

Tim Rankin wrote: "I live in NYC with my wife, Sharon, and children, Will (12) and Katie (10). I work for Franklin Mutual Advisers, where I am a global portfolio manager and head up our stewardship and environmental, social and governance efforts. I have no spare time, but manage to squeeze in some skiing between swim meets and scout trips."

Gina Son took her first international trip since Covid-19 and her daughter's start in middle school. She and her family attend science events at Columbia on Saturdays.

Fortuitously, **Mason Kirby** works at a company called Mason Kirby, Inc., an architecture firm in San Francisco (he must know somebody there) and sees **Paul Bollyky** frequently for family get-togethers, sport outings and chicken-rearing advice. (See a nearby photo!) Paul recently sent his eldest child of three to college and wonders where the time and his hair have gone. I saw Mason and Paul mere moments before lockdown in Palo Alto, where we had a late breakfast that was remindful of chowing down in FBH after crew practice.

Speaking of crew (and switching gears to our Carman brothers and sisters) **Tom Lloyd** BUS'00 shares: "Our family has had a big year. We took a trip to the Holy Land with our three children and my wife, Alicia, and I renewed our wedding vows at Cana. It was a deeply inspiring pilgrimage that I would love to discuss and that I highly recommend. In addition, I am working both with Solea Power, a solar development startup, developing utility scale solar farms, and with Paradisus Dei, a faith formation program, supporting couples, men and families in their spiritual development. I send my best regards to all!"

After a career in pharmaceuticals, **Ornella Vincenzino** is celebrating the 15th anniversary of her company, Innovaacom. The global business' mission is to have a positive impact on health with better communication and its one-of-a-kind tool, "Sticky Scientific Storytelling." Pre–Covid-19, Ornella traveled around the world and among her business' five hubs: United States, United Kingdom, Italy, United Arab Emirates and Hong Kong. Now, she says she is happily able to spend more time with her husband and wonderful children (14 and 11) at home in Rome.

Elliot Regenstein's book, *Education Restated: Getting Policy Right on Accountability, Teacher Pay, and School Choice,* was recently published. He did events in New York City and in Washington, D.C., where attendees included **Elizabeth Vickery** (née Berke), Adam Epstein '95, Mike Stanton '95, Flavio Kamenetz '96 and Allyson Baker '95 (the only one in D.C.; the others were in NYC). "It was great to see all of them!" Elliot said.

Elliot and his wife, Emily Paster, recently celebrated their 20th anniversary with a trip to France. The Regenstein family lives in River Forest, Ill., where "daughter, Zoe, is a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin, and son, Jamie, is a sophomore at Oak Park and River Forest H.S. Our parenting activity is driving Jamie to and from various rehearsals and attending his many music performances; the latter won't change even when he gets his driver's license, but I hope the former will.

"Professionally, I've now spent five years as a partner at Foresight Law + Policy, which has been great."

And a huge "Congratulations!" to **Lavinel Savu** on being named head of content and editorial at Amazon Fashion. He's had an illustrious, three-decade career in media, including as executive managing editor of *InStyle* and *Real Simple* and being the founding managing editor of *O, The Oprah Magazine.*

Looking forward to knitting our updates and stories in this column for years to come. Please reach out to the email address at the top of the column (created just for the occasion) or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

And let me know if you come to the area around Dartmouth in Hanover, N.H.

JENNA BOLLYKY

Craftsbury Outdoor Center in Craftsbury Common, Vt., was the setting for a June 1 meetup of, left to right: Tom Bollyky '96, Paul Bollyky '94, Amanda Kahn-Kirby '95 and Mason Kirby '94.

1995

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Super commuter **Mike Stanton** was named by New York governor Kathy Hochul to the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council and Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA. "Honored and excited to represent riders and support the dedicated public servants at the MTA as they work to adapt the transportation network to the region's post-pandemic needs," Mike wrote on LinkedIn. If you're a New York commuter, Mike would love to hear your observations, concerns and suggestions.

In his day job, Mike is head of strategy and communications at Build America Mutual Assurance. (His wife, Beth, is my longtime Bloomberg colleague.)

Dr. **Demetre Daskalakis** was named by President Biden as the White House National Monkeypox Response Deputy Coordinator. Demetre will lead the administration's strategy and operations to combat the monkeypox outbreak, including equitably increasing the availability of tests, vaccinations and treatments. He was previously director of the CDC Division of HIV Prevention.

From the White House official release: "Widely known as a national expert on health issues affecting the LGBTQIA+ communities, his clinical practice has focused on providing care for the underserved LGBTQIA+ communities."

Demetre previously oversaw management of infectious diseases for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, where he served as incident commander for the city's Covid-19 response, and as deputy commissioner for the Division of Disease Control.

I have fond memories of spending time with Demetre in the United Kingdom the summer after we graduated. He was doing a program — perhaps at Oxford or Cambridge, I can't remember — and I was working at ABC in London. It was always fun to meet up.

Thanks to **Rebecca Amaru**, an ob/gyn on the Upper East Side, for an update. The big news in her professional life is that her practice hired a fourth doctor. The change has a huge impact on her schedule, as she'll be on call every fourth night instead of every third. "My 18-year history of call every third day and every third weekend is now every fourth day and weekend. It actually turns out to feel pretty different, and just in time because my old body doesn't bounce back from all-nighters like it used to," she writes.

The big news at home is that her oldest child, Lyla (19), after a gap year on the Hevruta Gap-Year Program of the Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, is a freshman at Penn. She seems to relish opportunities to text Rebecca when Penn beats Columbia in sports. Isabel (17) is a senior at SAR H.S. in the Riverdale section of the Bronx, and was almost ready to submit her early decision application at the time Rebecca wrote; she can stop editing and reediting and go back to being a busy high school student. Jolie (15) is a freshman at SAR H.S. and adjusting well. Orli (12) is in seventh grade at SAR Academy.

The family celebrated Orli's bat mitzvah this past September. "My friend Jen Cohen '94 came up from Miami with her daughter Caroline, who is a freshman at UNC Chapel Hill. Jen is four for four at my girls' bat mitzvahs," Rebecca writes. "**Adina Shoulson** was also front and center, helping to lead the women's service in a tent in our yard. Orli's invitations were the beautiful work of my buddy Sarah Sheffer '94, who owns a company that makes exquisite old-school paper invitations that are so much more fun than email invites."

Rebecca shared news about alumni in other classes.

"I had the great pleasure of introducing my niece Ariel to Phyllis Fletcher '94, my Carman suitemate, when Ariel moved to Seattle for a job," she writes. "I have also been thrilled to refer some patients to my colleague Uchenna Acholonu '96, who specializes in minimally invasive gynecologic surgery. Uchenna and I met taking biology at Barnard. We were both avoiding the notorious Professor [Deborah] Mowshowitz! Finally, Evan Malter '96 sent me some awesome pics of him moving his son into Carman — CC'26!"

Rebecca holds a very special place in our family. That third night of call coincided with nights when my two children were born at Mount Sinai and she delivered them. Rebecca's daughter Orli was born the day after she delivered my daughter, Charlie.

I have my own update: I am back on campus for this academic year as a Spencer Fellow at the Journalism School. If you are on campus, please visit. My office is on the third floor of Pulitzer Hall. Let me tell you, it's a trip being back with a Columbia ID and using my original email address, jrf10. It's not quite like David Denby '65, JRN'66 sitting in on your Lit Hum class (hello, **James Stoterau**). But it's been exhilarating to step away from daily journalism after almost 30 years and dig into a long-term project. I'm looking at three public historically Black colleges in the South.

I've taken out books from the stacks at Butler Library — yes there are still Rolm phones on each floor! — had coffee in the lower level of Avery at a new cafe and even sat outside professors' doors in Fayerweather for office hours.

Happy 50th birthday to everyone. Please keep the news coming.

1996

Ana Salper
ana.salper@nyumc.org

Greetings, classmates! Thanks to the efforts of my fellow #26isthenew25 Columbia Reunion 2022 attendees, I have quite a bit of news to report this time.

Klancy Miller's new book, *For the Culture: Phenomenal Black Women and Femmes in Food,* comes out in May. *For the Culture* features 66 interviews with Black women and femmes in food and wine such as Dr. Jessica B. Harris, Sophia Roe, Carla Hall, Ayesha Curry and Yewande Komolafe, and includes 50 recipes by the interviewees and five personal essays about culinary matriarchs Edna Lewis, Leah Chase, B. Smith, Lena Richard and Vertamae Smart-Grosvenor.

Nihara Karim Choudhri LAW'99 is working in her dream job as a pro bono attorney at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. Her practice encompasses criminal justice, conviction relief and voting rights matters, with a focus on racial justice. Nihara and her husband have three children, one of whom is in his second year at the College. She writes: "It's really something to have a child experiencing all of the magic of Columbia! We feel very lucky."

Evan Malter also has a son, Jacob '26, who lives in the room on Carman 9 literally above Evan's freshman-year room. Jacob is a member of the ice hockey club, but unfortunately broke his wrist in his first game of the season.

Here's to a speedy recovery. Go Lions!

Tom Kitt's new musical, *Almost Famous,* written with Cameron Crowe and based on his Academy Award-winning film, opened on Broadway in November. Tom writes: "If you are in town, come see us at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theater!"

Kudos also to Tom for winning a NY Emmy in the Entertainment Category for Short Form Content for the "New York State of Mind" commercial that promoted the return of Broadway in August 2021. Tom was co-conceiver/music supervisor/co-arranger and co-orchestrator on the commercial, and it is truly beautiful. You can watch it on YouTube: bit.ly/3UNR8Od.

Hussein Rashid has many a Covid-19-delayed project appearing at almost the same time. He has a co-edited volume with Huma Mohibullah, *Bloomsbury Religion in North America: Islam,* and another with Jenna Gray-Hildenbrand and Beverley McGuire, *Teaching Critical Religious Studies: Pedagogy and Critique in the Classroom.* Hussein also published several articles, but highlights two he would like you to read, "Defining Islamic Art" in *Cyber Muslims* and "An Urdu of the Twenty-First Century United States," with Zeyba Rehman in *Are the Arts Essential?* Hussein is also producing a multi-hour documentary on the history of Muslims in the United States.

Julie Porter writes that she probably wins in our class for longest single job held since graduation. The week before classes ended in May 1996, she interviewed at the Columbia University Medical Center with Dr. Nancy Wexler for a job at the Hereditary Disease Foundation, a nonprofit funding research on Huntington's disease (HD), a rare neurological disorder (you might know it from *House*). She got the job and then took the swim test! Julie started after Memorial Day 1996. Her job has taken her to Venezuela, where there is the world's highest prevalence of HD and where she has met incredibly dedicated and interesting scientists and families. Much of the pull Julie felt toward this job came from classes she took at Columbia. Julie lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Jason Jimenez GSAPP'00, and their 10-year-old-son.

Noah Corman is executive director of SAY: The Stuttering Association for the Young. He writes that in October, **Tom Kitt, Dave Lee** and **Mike Choi** came out to support the organization at its fundraiser, Paul Rudd's Annual Bowling Benefit for SAY. Noah said it was a "super fun night, and supporting from afar were **Evan Malter** and **Trisha Merino**!"

Parag Gandhi writes that last August, after a three-year hiatus on humanitarian mission trips abroad due to the pandemic, he was

Parag Gandhi '96 (left) took a selfie with Dulcie Lin '96 at Convocation on August 28.

fortunate to join the first surgical mission trip for oculoplastic and facial reconstructive surgery back into Ecuador. Parag led a team partnering with Surgical Eye Expeditions International and a U.S. nonprofit, Partners for Andean Community Health, that has strong local ties to provide care to patients in the Andean region of Riobamba, where Indigenous communities have significant access to care issues. As a team of two surgeons, nurses and support staff, they performed sight-saving operations on kids and many reconstructive cases during the week. They plan to return and to expand the program.

Separately, Parag writes that a small number of CC'96 alumni gathered on campus in late August for Convocation to participate in the Alumni Procession. In addition to Parag, in attendance were **Evan Malter, Uchenna Acholonu, Dulcie Lin** and a few others. (See the nearby photo!) Parag writes: "We didn't expect the raucous fanfare from the current students when we entered the big tent, so a few of us quipped it must have been our 15 minutes of fame! Nice to see the welcome address by the new dean of Columbia College, Josef Sorett."

Moha Desai writes that it was wonderful catching up at Community Impact's 40th Anniversary Celebration last year at Chelsea Piers with **Rose Kob**, Nina Guralnick BC'96, Eurydice Kelley BC'96, Deborah Cronen BC'96 and **Noha El-Ghobashy SEAS'96,** SEAS'00.

After a long tenure at Columbia in various senior executive leadership roles in the Alumni Office and then as chief communications and marketing officer for the College, **Bernice Tsai** is now VP of brand, sponsorships and reputation at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

They are lucky to have you, Bernice!

Congratulations to **Amanda Cox,** who was promoted to assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Pediatric Allergy and Immunology at Mount Sinai.

Sandhya Nankani SIPA'97's studio, Literary Safari, continues to produce inclusive children's media and curriculum for clients such as McGraw Hill and Sesame Workshop. Sandhya writes that last fall, what made her happiest was when the podcast Story Seeds, which she independently created and produced in 2020–21 was featured on BBC's Podcast Radio Hour on an episode that recommended podcasts for young listeners. It was described as "A remarkable idea … If there was a really interesting idea for storytelling, this is it! This podcast is just so beautiful and so well told … I'm in love with this."

The Story Seeds Podcast matches a person 8–12 with an acclaimed author to grow a story on air, and features diverse authors including Aram Kim, Jason Reynolds and Chris Grabenstein and their companion activity guide for the podcast, *Imagination Lab: Experiments in Creativity*, which Sandhya's studio self-published, and is a Wirecutter "Best Gifts for 10-Year-Olds" pick.

Sandhya lives in northern New Jersey with her husband and 13-year-old daughter and enjoys post-Covid-19 travel as well as being president of the Board of Trustees of her local public library.

Congratulations to **Jodi Kantor,** whose excellent book *She Said: Breaking the Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement,* about *The New York Times'* investigation of Harvey Weinstein that Jodi wrote with Megan Twohey and that helped launch the #MeToo movement, has made it onto the big screen — go see the film!

I am so impressed by everyone's accomplishments — let's go, Class of 1996! Keep the notes coming.

I leave you with this:

"The essential is constantly threatened by the insignificant."

— René Char

1997

Kerensa Harrell
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Dear classmates, I hope that you are enjoying a fabulous winter, and that everyone is in good health. It is my pleasure to present the following updates from our class.

John Dean Alfone writes: "Following an extended lockdown, the Covid-19 pandemic provided a boon of sorts to my production career as I began steadily working again on set (typically doubling my day rate for those familiar with industry parlance and common sense). I have been trying for some time now to make the transition from below-the-line work to above-the-line work, and the pandemic presented a pathway of sorts. Although I did book work in Louisville, Knoxville and Atlanta with a New Orleans production company during Covid, it is still my preferred mandate to work regionally within the New Mexico, Texas and Louisiana industry, and I've now worked in nine contiguous states from Kentucky to Colorado. Credits include *House Hunters* (HGTV), *Turning Point: 9/11 and the War on Terror* (Netflix), *Invisible Monsters* (A&E), *Modern Marvels* (History), *Food Paradise* (Food Network), *The Machines That Built America* (History), *We Have a Ghost* (Netflix), *Trafficked with Mariana van Zeller* (National Geographic), *Pitbulls and Parolees* (Animal Planet), *Living Smaller* (A&E), *Swiping America* (HBOMax) and *Life's a Ballroom* (Bravo)."

MARA TYNAN

Visiting at the CNO Financial Indianapolis Monumental Marathon on November 5 were (left to right) Chas Sisk '98, Jordan Konig '98 and Erin McConkey '98 (neé Harken).

Emily Drabinski writes, "I was recently elected president of the American Library Association." Read more: bit.ly/3hz8zU4.

As for me, **Kerensa Harrell,** I am still a full-time stay-at-home mom but am considering what to do as a new career, as my 5-year-old daughter is now in kindergarten. While I figure it out, I've been volunteering at my daughter's school. She is enrolled in a dual-language program where they learn Spanish daily starting in kindergarten, with the goal of the program being fluency by the end of elementary school. So far she enjoys it, though she does complain that she prefers French. Luckily her French teacher was set to return from Paris soon after I wrote these notes. I know my daughter will be delighted to see her again.

As I wrap up this column, it is mid-October and here in Florida we recently got hit by Hurricane Ian, though luckily in our part it was very mild compared to other parts. Our local schools closed down for one week, but we never lost electricity so we all just got a nice staycation.

I wish you all a lovely spring! Coincidentally I am delighted that my daughter's school happens to have the same mascot as Columbia (the lion!) so I will now cue our fight song, "Roar, Lion, Roar," as I sign off.

In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen.

1998

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.edu
Development Contact
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Sandie Angulo Chen
sandie.chen@gmail.com

Let's start with good news. Congratulations to **Noah Zucker,** who wrote that in summer 2021 he won the 2022 Veteran 40–49 Men's Epee National Championship after taking silver in a previous attempt. For two years, because of Covid-19, he trained on his own, doing drills and footwork with his two teenagers on their balcony and at the local park. "Veteran fencing has never been better and would be great to see my teammates from back in the day get back into it," he writes.

Noah has three children with his fencing team sweetheart, Katherine Zucker '97 (née Lee); they live in Hoboken, N.J. All three Zucker children fence.

The next update is a sad one. For the second column in a row, we bring news of a classmate's passing. **Meena Merchant** died on August 15, 2022, five days after her 46th birthday, of metastatic breast cancer. A storyteller, filmmaker and artist based in Renton, Wash., Meena openly shared her nearly two-year journey with cancer through social media. As her husband, Mitch Shepherd, shared in a Facebook post announcing her death, "She loved life, she loved being alive. She loved living in the moment because the moment is all that we truly have."

Meena is survived by Mitch and their sons, Mizan (13) and Mohan (8), as well as her mother, older sister and brother-in-law, nieces, nephew and an entire community of friends and classmates in Washington State and beyond.

Rest easy, friend.

As our 25th reunion is this summer, I encourage more classmates to write in with updates. Send them to the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos are welcome, too, but should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

Save the dates for Columbia Reunion (Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3) and watch your inbox for info from the Alumni Office!

1999

Lauren Gershell
lauren@gershell.com

I hope everyone had a festive holiday season, and a happy 2023 to all! I am so pleased to have received the following updates from classmates.

Sara Steindel Dauber and her husband, Andrew Dauber '00, visited Rome last summer. Sara told me that they "had a fabulous time exploring ancient ruins, Bernini sculptures, Rafael's paintings and Michelangelo's masterpieces. As a first-time visitor to Rome, I found it a city that lives up to the hype, but one of the stars of the trip was actually the Core Curriculum. Though it's been more than 25 years since I took Art Hum and Lit Hum as a first-year living in Carman, the paintings, sculptures, myths, plays and history that I learned in those classes (and in CC) were top of mind as I experienced *The School of Athens, Ecstasy of St. Teresa, Apollo and Daphne,* and *Ratto di Proserpina* (those fingers pushing into the marble flesh!), Michelangelo's *Pietà* and *Moses*, and Bernini's undulating columns supporting the canopy at St. Peter's.

"The instructors who taught me about these works in 1995 left me with lasting emotional and intellectual connections; to this day the art (and literature) we studied are present with me as I read books and learn history and enjoy art. Nowhere is this more poignant than in Rome. Experiencing each work firsthand in Italy was a brief, sweet callback to those overwhelming, sometimes scary, but always edifying experiences in Morningside Heights. The Core Curriculum made me a knower of art, and I only wish I'd visited Rome sooner."

Kate Feingold (née Schechter) graduated from Cardozo Law in 2003 and practices civil litigation at Carlin Law Firm. She lives in Boca Raton, Fla., and has a son, Ethan (15), and daughter, Emma (11). Kate frequently sees **Eric Pflanzer** and connected with **Wendy Katz** on a recent trip to New York, and would love to connect with any CC'99 classmates who live in or visit Florida!

Eleisa Coster (née Hricko) shared that her twins left for college last fall, "which brought back fond memories of Carman 8! After a crazy summer of packing and unpacking and then repacking to make sure we had absolutely everything two college students might need, I am officially an empty nester. My husband and I hope to travel more frequently and I am working on a master's in education. I even picked up a tennis racquet for the first time in about 15 years!

"Home is Manhattan (I never left), and I find the city as vibrant as ever. **Caitlin Pannese** (née Tso) has visited us with her boys and for four summers in a row, my family traveled with Laura De Girolami '00 and her family throughout Europe; our art history professors would have been so proud (or appalled, depending on the amount of sugar the kids ate that day)."

Eleisa added that "**Lauren Gershell** (née Rosenberg) and I remain close; her son is my godson and I enjoy watching him play baseball. We feel very fortunate that our kids have grown up in the city together."

Please reach out via the email address at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2000

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Happy winter, Class of 2000! We hope you have had a great start to 2023. For this issue, we heard exciting news from **Maya Bernstein:** "After graduation I spent the summer teaching English in Tianjin, China, and then lived in Frankfurt, Germany, for a year, working for the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation. I earned an M.Ed. in education from Harvard in 2002 and spent a decade in the Bay Area as a founder of UpStart Lab, which supports innovation in the Jewish community.

"I now live in Yonkers with my family. My husband, Noam Silverman, is the principal of Heschel H.S. in Manhattan and we have five children, ranging in age 6–16. I co-direct the Certificate in Facilitation Program at Georgetown and design and teach the leadership curriculum at Yeshivat Maharat, a women's rabbinical school. My first book, a collection of poetry called *There Is No Place Without You,* was released in September."

Congrats on the new book, Maya!

Please make it a New Year's resolution to send in a Class Note; your classmates want to hear from you! You can write to us at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2001

Jonathan Gordin
jrg53@columbia.edu

Hi CC'01. It's been a long time since I've heard from any of you.

Please take a moment to send me your latest news and happenings, and I'll share them in a future issue. Please write to me at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Photos of minimum 750 kb that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum for "Just Married!" as long as a member of the couple — should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

We'd all love to hear from you! I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays and that your year is off to a great start.

2002

Sonia Hirdaramani
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Franklin Amoo was appointed to the U.S. President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa, the apex private sector body advising U.S. commercial and trade policy toward the African continent. Baylis Emerging Markets, the investment firm he founded and of which he is managing partner, specializes in investing across the African continent with an emphasis on digital infrastructure, telecommunications, manufacturing and industrial opportunities.

Franklin writes, "So far neither my wife (who is a senior exotics trader for Goldman) nor my two little boys seem very impressed. I shuttle among our offices in NYC, Lagos, Nairobi and Dakar looking after our investments but currently call London home and would be happy to reconnect with any Lions here or passing through!"

Elizabeth "Liz" Clay Roy was selected by *Ebony Magazine* as a Community Crusader within its 2022 Power 100. As CEO of

Generation Citizen, she works with a team to build a more inclusive, multi-racial democratic future, starting with our nation's young people. "I'm deeply honored that our work is being recognized in this way," she says. Read more: ebony.com/power100-list/community-crusaders.

Margaret "Abby" Wilson relocated with her son, Ronan, and husband, Patrick, during the pandemic to the United Kingdom, where she's studying psychology in Cambridge. She tied a bow on a 20-year career in public policy and design to become a psychotherapist and wishes she could have attended our 20-year reunion.

Marie Holmes recently joined HuffPost as the parenting reporter: @holmes_marie.

Agnia Baranauskaite Grigas and her husband welcomed their third child, daughter Andrea, last July. Agnia is the founder of Monster Education, an online enrichment school for advanced elementary and middle school students. Based in Los Angeles, she continues to cover the Russia-Ukraine war in the media.

Please share your news and updates via the email address at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2003

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
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Michael J. Novielli
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I'm super excited for our big 20th reunion, Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3! It will be so awesome to get together for such a milestone after two-plus difficult years of social isolation through Covid-19, so please plan to join us. Senior Class President **Kimberly Grant, Tamar Simon** and I co-chair the Reunion Committee, so do drop us a line if you have ideas for how to make our reunion experience even more epic than our 15th. We're also happy to excited to announce that **Sam Arora, Sabine Bejori, Katie Benvenuto, Marva Brown, Nadege Fleurimond, Michael Foss, Amy Greenstein, Marjorie Hernandez, Claudia Huerta, Scott Hunter, Kimberly Kalmanson, Cristina Monterrey, Rachel Neuhut, Carter Reum, Nicole Washington** and **AnnaMaria White** (née Mannino) have all agreed to serve on the committee.

I want to update you on what some of the committee members have been up to recently, and of course we'd love to hear more about what's new in your life so please email me your update for the next column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Sabine Bejori is global director, customer experience and omnichannel strategy at Merck.

Katie Benvenuto BUS'12 is associate dean, College development and alumni relations, for Columbia College.

Amy Greenstein is director, legal, for BioNTech SE.

Claudia Huerta GSAPP'12 is VP of business engagement and partnerships for the San Diego Workforce Partnersip, a role she assumed last year; she is also a founding member of the San Diego Tech Hub.

Nicole Washington is a partner-investment funds at Kirkland & Ellis.

AnnaMaria White (née Mannino) is a strategic internal communications leader at Amazon.

2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

Congratulations to **Adam Spunberg** and his team at AB InBev! They won the Manufacturing Leadership Council Awards' overall award for Large Manufacturer of the Year for their digital transformation projects. This is probably the most prestigious award in supply chain innovation.

Christine Luu SEAS'05 is a director of business affairs at NBCUniversal, representing Peacock and NBC in TV deals, and would love to connect with other alums in the entertainment industry.

Milka Milliance shared: "I recently launched a company. I am co-founder and partner at Different, a diversity, equity and inclusion consulting company based in San Diego and Miami that delivers a range of services to small- and medium-sized companies. We deliver organizational assessments, audits, strategic planning, learning and development, governance and implementation services to expand the impact of DEI in the workplace. We serve domestic and international clients."

Milka Milliance '04 recently launched Different, a diversity, equity and inclusion consulting company based in San Diego and Miami.

That's all for this issue. Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always great, but please reach out to share about trips you might take, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across — we love fun updates!

You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

2005

Sallie Touma
sallie@salliemathtutor.com

Hi, Class of 2005!

Ifeolu Sered (née Babatunde) and her husband, Barak, welcomed their second child, Naomi Temitope Sered, last March. Ifeolu works at LinkedIn and lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., with her family.

Jeanelle Folkes TC'10, SPS'19 is still at Columbia! After having worked for the Office of the Registrar for 11 years, she was hired last June by the Journalism School, where she is the assistant director of enrollment operations and analysis for its Office of Admissions. This year marked her 16th year as a Columbia employee. She can definitely say a lot has changed since we were students.

Suzanne Schneider GSAS'14 earned a Ph.D. from the Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African studies department at Columbia. She largely works on historian and political theory in the modern Middle East. She has written two books: *Mandatory Separation: Religion, Education, and Mass Politics in Palestine* (2018) and *The Apocalypse and the End of History: Modern Jihad and the Crisis of Liberalism* (2021). Since 2015, Suzanne has been working alongside a number of fellow GSAS alums to build the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research into a thriving education and research center. Loosely modeled on the Core Curriculum, BISR creates opportunities for working adults to engage the liberal arts and sciences in the public sphere through courses, events and media productions. Suzanne is both deputy director and a core faculty member teaching courses in history, political theory and religious studies. If you're missing your CC texts, check them out!

Suzanne is on sabbatical at Oxford this year as a Visiting Fellow at Magdalen College and starting a book about the use of risk as a political and social tool. She is happy to bring along her husband of 15 years, Jonathan Reich '04, LAW'07, and their daughters, Charlotte and Sophia (11) and Madeline (4). They are trying to travel as much as possible without getting their children in trouble for skipping school. :)

Sometimes, it can be difficult to decide what to include in our column. Here are some questions to prompt you: 1. Career: Did you get a promotion? Change your job? Earn a degree? 2. Personal: How are you ringing in your 40th birthday?

Did you welcome a child? 3. Travel/culture: Have you enjoyed a trip? A show? An exhibition?

As for me, I was happy that Pink Martini, a blues and jazz concert, was on tour. It is described as a "little orchestra that crosses several styles such as classical, Latin, traditional pop and jazz." Work-wise, I've expanded to English and international baccalaureate. I'm trying to decide how to celebrate 4-0!

You can send your updates either via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

It would be great if you'd please email me back just to say hi. If we didn't meet while at Columbia, please introduce yourself!

2006

Andrew Stinger
andrew.stinger@gmail.com

Greetings from Brooklyn, N.Y.!

Trousers (my senior rescue mutt) and I recently made the move from San Francisco back to New York after 15 lovely years on the West Coast. I'm excited to be closer to family and closer to our Morningside Heights campus, where I hope you'll let me know if I might find you there at an alumni event.

Since our last issue, I've accepted a role as head of marketing at the startup Univer.se. I can also still be found on a SoulCycle bike; if you're up for a ride, I'd love to see you in class.

As you can imagine, with the big move, things have been a bit untethered for me, so I barely got the call out for submissions for column. My deep gratitude to **Eva Colen** for responding to the call.

She shares: "I have been living in Richmond, Va., since 2010. I married Derek Salerno in November 2016. Later that year, I launched Virginia Excels, an advocacy organization committed to amplifying the voices of kids, families and communities in the K–12 education policy-making process. In March 2018, Derek and I welcomed our first child, Abram. In May 2018, Richmond mayor Levar Stoney appointed me to his cabinet as a senior policy advisor for youth initiatives. I continue to serve in this role while also managing Richmond's Office of Children and Families, which Mayor Stoney established in Spring 2020. In June 2020, Derek and I welcomed our second child, Leah."

During her tenure, Eva and team have successfully guaranteed access to after-school programming for all elementary and middle-school children in Richmond, and she is now hard at work to universalize access to high-quality, full day preschool for all 3- and 4-year-olds in the city.

Congratulations on all of your incredible accomplishments, Eva!

Please share your news and updates via the email address at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2007

David Donner Chait
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

I hope everyone is doing well, and thanks so much to everyone who shared updates.

Tom Lightcap married Amanda Watts last summer, in a ceremony outside Knoxville, Tenn. In attendance were Eddie Beaulac '08; **Tarik Bolat;** Jack Cantrell '09 and his wife, CJ Cantrell '09; **David Chait** and his wife, Amanda Mullens Chait GSAAP'13; **Arvind Kadaba;** Shreya Kadaba '12; **Gabe Rose; Brandon Schoettler SEAS'07; Peter Shalek; Jonah Van Bourg;** Ben Weingarten '10; and **Jarod Were SEAS'07** and his wife, **Zip Inayat SEAS'07.**

Riddhi Sohan Dasgupta writes, "I had the blessing of delivering formal addresses about national security and international trade to the Parliaments of Romania, Hungary and Guatemala last year. I recently joined Frost Brown Todd as a partner in its Washington, D.C., office."

Eric Bondarsky shares, "Super pumped that **Josh Levine** moved back to the area. I hope by the time this is published we will have recreated some of the good times in Suite 1010 with **Matt Kondub** and **Jeffrey Feder SEAS'07** and maybe even **Ben Hofkin,** if he's reading this."

Kat Vorotova BUS'11's company ettitude, of which she is co-founder and president, became a B Corp in 2022, Climate Neutral certified in 2021 and a member of 1% for the Planet. She writes, "As a result of its innovative textiles manufacturing processes, ettitude has already saved 43 million bathtubs worth of water and 4,100 cars on the road-worth of CO_2 emissions and is on a mission to drastically reduce the use of harmful chemicals, water, energy and CO_2 emissions in the textile industry. Ettitude was listed as one of Inc. 5000's fastest-growing private U.S. companies twice in a row, and one of 200 Real Leaders Impact Companies of 2022 (along with Patagonia and Tesla)."

Alison Désir GSAS'11 shares, "My book *Running While Black: Finding Freedom in a Sport That Wasn't Built for Us,* came out October 18!

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2008

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Bradley Blackburn
blb2104@columbia.edu

We're just a few months away from our 15th reunion, CC'08. Hope to see you there — and thanks to everyone for sending in their news.

Rachel Belt is entering her second year as a doctoral student at the University of Oxford, focusing on immunization and digital health. In the last year, she has joined the Council on Foreign Relations as a term member. She says she is enjoying life in the United Kingdom and looks forward to seeing classmates in NYC for the CFR events!

Chas Carey was appointed town administrator of Brookline, Mass., the largest town in the state. He now serves as the town's highest appointed officer, running day-to-day operations and long-term strategic projects. Brookline is a municipality at the cutting edge of sustainable and equitable development initiatives, including a pioneering ban of fossil fuel use in new construction. Chas says those seeking to be part of a forward-thinking local government team should check the town's open positions and get in touch!

Jamie Culpon writes from Fort Worth: "It's been a while, CC folx. Fifteen years, with most of the last decade outside of greater NYC, has made a lot of the city feel quite different, but one thing remains the same: Queer folx take care of business, even when we don't reap all the rewards. Still dreaming of reaching the stars (sustainably!) and making augmented reality/virtual relaitywork even for the deafest amongst us (yes, I am sus)."

Alex Gartenfeld is artistic director at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami. In the last year, he opened exhibitions for Jadé Fadojutimi, Hugh Hayden SOA'18 and the museum's first major collection exhibition. In December, Alex published catalogs on artists Chakaia Booker and Dalton Gata. He has spearheaded mitigating the museum's carbon footprint, and stewarded the first museum non-fungible token acquisition.

David Henry Gerson writes with news about his documentary: "Thrilled to say my film *The Story Won't Die,* a portrait of Syrian artists in exile who use their art to process the largest and longest displacement of people since WWII, is now eligible for the 2023 Academy Awards. It has been a pleasure collaborating on the film with Colleen Ritzau Leth BC'08."

Jia Guo SEAS'08 writes from NYC: "My husband, Wei; big brother, Theo; and I are beyond happy to welcome Ethan Ke, born on July 24 and measuring 49 cm and weighing 3.13 kg, to our expanding family!"

Christine Han was married on October 22 at the Ritz-Carlton in Pentagon City, Va. Her matron of honor was **Michelle Chyu SEAS'08** (née Sung).

Miguel Lopez was recently named secretary of the New York City Bar Association's Trade Secrets Committee. He is an attorney in the New York office of Littler Mendelson.

Who is **Sarah McGrath?** Answer: Our classmate who was a contestant on *Jeopardy!* last April. Sarah says it was the culmination of a lifelong dream and three rounds of vigorous testing. She didn't win, but says she had a great time.

Caley Rose writes with an update on her career as a pop singer and songwriter. Her music has been featured on Top 40 radio, in film and in commercials. Her next release, "Honest Woman," won a John Lennon songwriting award and was released in late October. Caley is on a cross-country tour in her self-renovated airstream trailer, "The Shiny Twinkie." She empowers women and youth by partnering with organizations that uplift them and by speaking about confidence in schools across the country.

Rachel Lindsay '09 recently spent time in Belfast, Northern Ireland, to see a comics group show that included pages from her 2018 graphic novel memoir, RX.

Chennai Xu and Chad Cohen welcomed Charlotte Xu Cohen in October, born at NewYork-Presbyterian Alexandra Cohen Hospital for Women and Newborns in Manhattan. Chennai writes, "The family of three is doing well, and Charlotte is looking forward to wearing her first CC onesie!"

2009

Shira Burton
shira.burton@gmail.com

Hello, Class of 2009! Check out what your classmates are doing.

Louis Abramson writes from Los Angeles, where he's rounding out his campaign for California State Assembly: "I'd love to share my experience with anyone who's thinking about running for office. More people should, and — as someone who took a left turn from academic astrophysics to social policy-focused politics — I'd encourage a broad cross-section of our class to jump in. If you're interested in hearing about my race and what it's taught me, please get in touch (leabramson@gmail.com)!"

Rachel Lindsay recently spent time in Belfast, Northern Ireland, to see *I Know I've Been A Stranger Lately,* a comics group show including pages from her graphic novel memoir, *RX* (2018). Since its publication, *RX* has gained international recognition for its take on psychopharmaceutical advertising, manic depressive illness and involuntary hospitalization. Rachel and her work have been featured in *World Literature Today, New York* Magazine and *The New Yorker,* and on the podcast Mental Health Happy Hour. *RX* is taught at universities around the world, including Columbia. Rachel also had an award-winning comic strip, *Rachel Lives Here Now,* that ran in Vermont's statewide alt-weekly 2016–21. She is working on a second book inspired by her experiences in Dublin following her trip. She welcomes collaborations with classmates if anyone has a story to tell (or any ideas about how to get an Irish visa).

Munif Hussain is treating weekend warriors, runners et al. at his orthopedic sports medicine practice on the Upper West Side. He is working in a multi-specialty hub through Summit Health-CityMD Urgent Care that offers cardiology, plastic surgery and other specialties. He'd love to see classmates and other Columbia alumni as patients if anyone needs sports medicine care.

And an update from **Jack Miller:** "My wife, Jia, and I had our second son, James, 12 weeks early on September 4, 2022, here in Houston. He's a fighter and growing in the NICU right now."

Wishing Jack and his family the best!

As always, send me news by email or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2010

Billy Organek
william.a.organek@gmail.com

Hi, Class of 2010! No text updates this time. I hope that means you were all so busy crushing it that you had no time to respond! That said, your classmates and I would love to hear from you, so please send me an update to share with everyone. Write to me by email or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

While we didn't receive any text updates, **Daniel Kanak** sent a photo from his wedding showing his Columbia pride along with several other alums. See "Just Married!"

Thanks for sharing!

You can send in a photo, too, as long as it is at least 750 kb and features at least two CC alums (or one, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!"). Send those right to *CCT* using the photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and
Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

Howdy, Class of 2011! Wild to think that 15 years have passed since most of us showed up on campus and moved into our rooms in John Jay, Carman, Furnald and Wallach. Life was simpler then, in a sense, without mortgages, back pain or a fragile democracy. But through your updates, it's clear that the spirit of excitement to find one's way, to build things, to improve the state of the world — that is still there.

First is perhaps one of the best updates we've ever received, as one of our own has achieved Italian dessert immortality. **Matt Pruznick** JRN'14 won the San Gennaro cannoli-eating contest for the second consecutive year! He ate 18 large cannolis from Ferrara Bakery in six minutes to win the 24th annual competition, and his victory was even featured on *Jimmy Kimmel Live.* He is not aiming to be a pro or anything, but will definitely be back to defend his title next September! Matt is an editor at the PR agency Weber Shandwick, loving life with his wife and dog at their condo in Little Italy (right by the festival, which is why he entered).

Erin Meyer LAW'11 is celebrating having landed her dream job as a pro bono counsel at Cooley, a leading global law firm with a strong commitment to social justice and public service. She says she is grateful to join an all-star team of 10 pro bono professionals, led by partner Maureen Alger LAW'98, and is looking forward to serving the firm's pro bono clients in immigration, gender justice and LGBTQ+ rights matters.

Nicola Rose is a film director whose debut feature, *Goodbye, Petrushka,* is available on Amazon Prime in the United States and the United Kingdom, plus on Tubi in several countries, and on Google Play and YouTube. The film is a coming-of-age comedy about a girl who goes from America to France. It has some roots in Nicola's experiences studying in France while a College student.

After earning a Ph.D. at the University of Southern California in 2020 and spending most of the pandemic in the Bay Area, **Peter Labuza** SOA'14 has switched gears and joined the labor movement. He is a researcher at the International Cinematographers Guild, IATSE Local 600, supporting 10,000 members to find safety, security and solidarity. He moved back to Los Angeles with his fiancée, LeeAnna Bowman-Carpio; if you are in the area, get in touch and he'll talk about how you can unionize your workplace!

We got lots of baby updates! Molly Spector BC'11 and **Dhruve Vasishtha** are excited to announce the birth of their son Simon Spector Vasishtha. They look forward to

Just Married!

CCT welcomes wedding photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: **college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo**. Congratulations!

1

DAVID BASTIANONI

2

KEYLA ALANES

3

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

BRIAN HATTON PHOTOGRAPHY

4

ELIZABETH STROKA

5

BROOKE IMAGES

6

ASIA PIMENTEL

7

FX VIDEO AND PHOTOGRAPHY

8

9

ERIN PRADO

10

CINDY TRINH

11

DAVID ESTERSON

1. Daniel Kanak '10 and Elina Kanak (center) were married on June 4 in Florence, Italy. Joining them were, left to right: Zak Ringelstein '08, Austin Hamilton '10, Robert Hung '10, Matthew Harold '10, Tess Finkel '10, Sue Yang '10 and Alex Yagoda '10.

2. Harper Leahy '13 and Helena Leahy '13 (née Hao Wu) (front row, third and fourth from left) were married in Washington, D.C., on May 15, 2021. Celebrating with them were, left to right: Michael Yoon SEAS'13, Stephanie Nass '13, Ivan Duschatzky SEAS'14, Phillip Fletcher '13, Donald Lovejoy SEAS'15, Mary Fowler BC'16, Frederick Havemeyer IV '13, Thomas Galluccio '15, Ashley Shaw '13, James Yoon '13, Audry Padgett SEAS'13, Sergio Villar '13, Skanda Amarnath '13, Rebecca Fine '12 and Erik Kogut '12.

3. Brian Chung '16 and Katherine Chung '16 (née Nevitt) (front, holding banner) married at the New York Athletic Club on June 11. At the celebration were, back row, left to right: Luis Bochner '16, Nik Nayar '16, Alexander Tavares-Finson '16, Julian Richardson '14, Taylor Curry '16, Leila Mgaloblishvili '16 and Tom Higgins '16; and front row, left to right: Nicolas Sambor '16, Alexander Bernstein '16, Samina Gagne '16, Maddie Schwab '16, Urvashi Pathania '16, Nikita Sivakumaran '16 and Lia Higgins BC'16.

4. David Wanner and Bakhita Thordarson Wanner '16 (back row, second and third from left) were joined at their June 25 wedding in Medfield, Mass., by, back row, left to right: Sarah Green '16, Katie Thordarson Williams GS'16 and Olger C. Twyner III BUS'90; and front row: Alison Scorese BC'16 and Angela Scorese BC'16.

5. Brett Carns and Courtney Morrison '10 were married on September 24 on Amelia Island, Fla.

6. Michael Barrientos SEAS'12 and Elizabeth Angeles '13 (center) married in Cancún on August 27, surrounded by many friends. Left to right: Deiby Barrientos '11, Christopher Guerrero SEAS'09, Patricia Rojas '12, Cristina De La Rosa '14, Cindy Reyes BC'10, Mariano Payano SEAS'14, Danielle Christ Mae Scully '15, Annell A. Ovalles BC'15, Caitlin Anderson '12, Dominique Nieves '12, Emmanuel Arnaud '13, Gilbert Nuñez '13, Stephanie Guzman Arnaud LAW'22, Gabriel Kerr '12, Carolina Escalera SIPA'13, Ernesto Jacobs SEAS'13, Jason Tejada '13, Humberto Estevez SEAS'12, Michael Elias SEAS'15, Sebastian Garcia SEAS'13, Brian Velez SEAS'14, Jasmine Ruiz BC'14, Juan Garcia SEAS'12, Jason Han '12, Joshua Walteros SEAS'13, Juan Pablo Londoño SEAS'12, Jake Lefker '13, Richard Parraga SEAS'14, Maria Liliana Carrillo SEAS'13, Bryan Amador SEAS'15, Amanda Lopez '13, Jessenia Martinez '13, Lucelys Popoter '14, Sami Ahmad SEAS'12, Leslie Sanchez SEAS'14, Carmen Romero BC'13, Nicole Velazquez BC'09, Jacquellena Carrero '13, Corina Velazquez BC'15, Nicholas Velazquez SEAS'11 and Jonathan Orea '13.

7. Ellen Rosenbloom and Adam Rosenbloom '83 were married at The Harmonie Club in NYC on June 19.

8. Bryan Markowitz '19 and Tehila Aferiat were married on September 15 in Jerusalem. With them were the groom's parents, Meryl Markowitz and Dr. Charles Markowitz '82.

9. Nadia Safaeinili Tierney PH'15 and Aaron Tierney '15 were married at the Brazilian Room in Berkeley, Calif., on August 12.

10. Annie Tan '11 and Corey Chu were married in NYC's Chinatown on March 12.

11. Morgan Villar '11 (née Ferguson) and Dr. Brandon Villar, joined by pups Betty Swaggie White and Tycho, were married in Los Angeles on January 7, 2022.

Simon's college essay on navigating dual identities for his eventual Columbia application.

Meredith Lester (née Mead) and Kevin Reed Lester '12 welcomed their third boy, Titus Wells Lester, on April 19. Titus joined his brothers, twins Tank and Thorn (2). Meredith and Kevin were lucky to have an extended parental leave; they took full advantage and drove an RV to Alaska and back! See the nearby photo.

After spending the last decade living in London and Austin, **Rachel Heng** and **Carl Jeanbart SEAS'11,** SEAS'12 moved back to the incomparable Upper West Side last summer and were thrilled to welcome little August Jeanbart-Heng (CC or SEAS TBD, and a topic of great contention) into their lives. Rachel's second novel, *The Great Reclamation*, will be published in March. The cover was recently featured in Oprah Daily: bit.ly/3gpRawQ. Launch events are in the works but she hopes to have one at Book Culture and that maybe she'll see you there!

Kate Taylor (née Durnan) LAW'14 welcomed her first baby, George, in April and was promoted to partner in the M&A group at Debevoise & Plimpton, where she has been working for eight years.

We also have some weddings to share with you: **Alexandra Fisher** and Christopher Moon were married on April 9 at Stemple Creek Ranch in Tomales, Calif. After a two-year delay, family and friends gathered over a weekend to celebrate and dance late into the night. The couple met in San Francisco, where Allie is head of creative at Godfrey Dadich Partners and Chris is a technical project manager at Google.

Last March, **Annie Tan** married Corey Chu at her childhood home in Chinatown, NYC. (See "Just Married!") On June 19, Annie spoke on behalf of her family at her cousin Vincent Chin's 40th Remembrance and Rededication in Detroit; Chin's 1982 murder spurred an Asian-American movement and has frequently been cited during this recent rise of anti-Asian hate. And, after being in the classroom for 11 years, Annie took a break from teaching special education, as teaching during the pandemic has been difficult beyond words, and is working on her first book, a memoir about her family activism, languages and legacy. Any and all writing buddies and publishing tips, especially based in NYC, are welcome!

And, lastly: Your trusted correspondent **Sean Udell** welcomed a new nephew, and is very excited for his sister and brother-in-law's expanding little family. He has also had the pleasure of hosting his freshman-year Carman suitemate and sophomore-year Shapiro roommate **Felix Vo** in Philadelphia twice in 2022. Felix's taste for cheesesteaks is seemingly insatiable, and the pair had quite the time sampling the Philadelphia delicacy while also trying to stay cute for Philly Pride. Fellow Carman 9-er and exceptional friend **Ali Krimmer** returned the favor and paid Felix a visit in dazzling Paris, France (not to be confused with Paris, Texas) during Labor Day weekend, where they had an amazing time. The pair took in many of the sights in the City of Lights and celebrated Felix's 33rd birthday.

2012

Sarah Chai Schildknecht
sarahbchai@gmail.com

[Editor's note: *CCT* thanks **Sarah Chai Schildknecht** for her 10 great years of service as class correspondent. Effective with the Summer 2023 issue, we welcome **Pat Blute** to the role. Send your news to him at pblute@gmail.com or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. See a few words from Pat at the end of the column!]

Hi, Class of 2012. Congrats are in order for **Ryan Haslett** and his wife, Allison Haslett (née McLaren) TC'15, who welcomed their first child, Aiden Gregory Haslett, on July 21!

A sweet note as well from **Vasilis Hristidis** GS'16: "In honor of my best friend Sarah's last year as our class rep, I'd love to share some updates. I'm in my second year of residency in psychiatry at Washington University and living in St. Louis with my partner and my beautiful cat, Nova. I'm still a huge Swiftie, as any of my friends from Columbia likely know, and I still speak to three of my best friends pretty much daily. Love you, **Sarah Chai Schildknecht, Ariel Moger**

Welcome to
Alaska

JODY LESTER

The Lester family road-tripped to Alaska in an RV after the birth of their third son. On July 15 (left to right), Kevin Reed Lester '12, Thorn Lester, pooch Spud Lester, Tank Lester, Meredith Lester '11 (née Mead) and Titus Lester posed near the Alaska/Canada Border in Tok, Alaska.

and **Morgan Fletcher.** Any CC'12 people should feel free to reach out and catch me up on your life!"

As Vasilis mentions, this is my last issue as the CC'12 class correspondent. Having now reached a decade in this role, it seems like the right time to pass the baton to a classmate. The past years have been filled with many changes, and for me most recently this has involved a cross-country move from New York to California with my wonderful husband, Will Schildknecht. Slowly but surely we are getting settled into life on the West Coast. I am glad to be closer to my family and to have joined the Los Angeles Organizing Committee for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

I am grateful to all of you for sharing your lives with me for so many years. Though it is bittersweet to step away from this experience, I look forward to reconnecting with everyone in other ways. Until then, Roar, Lion, Roar!

And to close, a few words from **Pat Blute:** "Thank you, Sarah, for your invaluable contributions to keeping our class together and up to date. I look forward to carrying the baton and to celebrating, sharing and championing CC'12 from Brooklyn, N.Y.!"

2013

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
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ccfund@columbia.edu

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

Several notes came in through the *CCT* Class Notes webform (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note webform), and you can send your news this way, too! Photos are also welcome, as long as they are a minimum 750 kb and feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum for "Just Married!" as long as a member of the couple — they should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Now, some news from classmates!

Julia Monk, who lives in Miami, writes: "I graduated with a Ph.D. in ecology from the Yale School of the Environment last May. I moved to Miami with my partner about a year ago, and I'll continue to work remotely from Miami in a post-doc position. It's been really hard meeting people while working from home, so if anyone is in South Florida and wants to be friends, hit me up! I am especially interested in finding other folks who want to support each other in getting more involved in progressive advocacy in Florida."

Victoria Lewis, in NYC, was recently appointed assistant concertmaster of the Israel Symphony Rishon LeZion, resident orchestra of the Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv.

Elizabeth Angeles, living in the Bronx, shares: "I am proud to share that last summer I was selected as a 40 Under 40 Rising Star in New York City Food Policy by the Hunter College New York City Food Policy Center. I have also been selected to serve on the New York State Graduation Measures Blue Ribbon Commission, which will explore what a New York State high school diploma means and what it should signify to ensure educational excellence and equity for all New York State children. This commission will provide recommendations directly to the Board of Regents. I would love to connect and collaborate with anyone engaged in food access or education equity policy efforts. After teaching on Zoom for two years, I am excited to be in a physical classroom this year as an adjunct professor at NYU, where I teach an advocacy capstone section for graduate students pursuing a master's in public administration."

See a great group photo from Elizabeth's wedding in "Just Married!"

Thanks to those who wrote! Classmates would love to hear from more of you, so please reach out. And keep an eye on your inbox for info on our 10-year reunion, coming up in June!

2014

Rebecca Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

No news to share this time, but I wish CC'14 a great 2023! Reach out at any time with updates. You can send them either via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Hello, Class of 2015! No updates to share this issue. But as always, classmates want to hear from you! Please submit updates by writing to me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

Hey 2016. I'm writing this from Taipei. I've been working a lot more in Asia and have been in Tokyo and Taipei recently. If you are around the area, please let me know! I saw **Sophia Horowitz** (see the nearby photo!) and **Dan Schlosser SEAS'16** in Tokyo. We've been working on a multimedia performing arts project, wearetonari.com, and will release a film screening and some performances in a few cities soon.

Christian Zhang "gave up on his journalism dreams and has spent the past five years scouring Southeast Asia and the rest of the world for profitable investments, all in pursuit of the noble goal of helping his hedge fund employer and wealth clients become wealthier. The result: strong opinions on conference room decor, a lot of frequent flyer miles and the occasional company that doesn't burn money. He also enjoys meeting Columbia alumni in the strangest places along his travels. If you're passing through Singapore, Thailand, Laos, Germany or Georgia, let him know: cz2281@columbia.edu!"

Penina Francus shares: "I wrote a Letter to the Editor [to *The New*

York Times] in response to an article accusing elite college campuses of being closed off to their surrounding towns. My letter concerned my experience at Columbia and the openness of the University community to the rest of the city. Here is the original article: bit.ly/3H2Ri07, and the Letters to the Editor (mine is at the end): bit.ly/3VGNHsz."

That's all I have for you this edition! If you would like to share an update, reach out via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

2017

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

Bianca Guerrero is on sabbatical, serving as the racial justice leader-in-residence at the Colin Powell School at City College. Her position is threefold: She is managing programming, mentorship and career opportunities for a group of 15 undergraduate fellows; completing an independent study focused on quilts and textiles in American social movements; and will teach a course on gender and sexuality in New York politics this spring. She lives in Yonkers, is rediscovering her love for camping and was excited to work on more crafts this past winter.

Jordana Fremed married Ben Pleat on September 18, in Cortlandt, N.Y. Jordana and Ben had been dating since college and were thrilled to get to share their celebrations with so many Columbia friends. They live in Boston with their rescue pups, Bowie and Beacon.

Daniel Schwartz, SEAS'18 and his wife, Elizabeth Rosen '18, welcomed their second child, Leora Rachel, in October.

Please submit updates by emailing me or using the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2018

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JUNE 1–3
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and Maleeha Chida
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mnc2122@columbia.edu

It was great reconnecting with many of you during Homecoming weekend as well as to meet many of you whom I surprisingly never got a chance to know during our time at Columbia. For those who weren't able to make it, a number of our classmates have some great updates to share!

Sophia Horowitz '16 (left) and Lily Liu-Krason '16 had dinner on October 12 at Sōwadō in Tokyo.

DAN SCHLOSSER SEAS'16

Friends (left to right) Bryan Lee '18, Joshua Suh '18, Yujin Kim SEAS'20 and Seung Hee Han SEAS'17, here on September 1 in Seoul, enjoyed a trip abroad together.

Turner DeMuth married **Natalie Ambrose** (now DeMuth) last July in Bend, Ore. They were fortunate to have a lot of CC alumni in attendance, including several members of the football and soccer teams (Turner played football and Natalie played soccer at Columbia). Turner's brother and his wife, who were both in attendance, are CC'15 alumni. We all highly await the wedding pictures!

Joshua Suh recently went to Seoul with **Bryan Lee,** Yujin Kim SEAS'20 and Seung Hee Han SEAS'17. They ate good food (of course), caught up on their lives and reminisced about old friends. See the nearby photo!

Ethan Adams recently released a song, "Wish I XX Love U" under his alias, Mallive, which was active during his time at Columbia. The song is available on Spotify and has featured album art as well as a headshot. Ethan was a highly ranked contestant in the 2016 edition of Battle of the Bands at school. He is present on various forms of social media, including Instagram and TikTok, under his alias.

As always, it's great to hear from you all. Please feel free to send a Class Note at any time either through email or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of minimum 750 kb that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum for "Just Married!" as long as a member of the couple — should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

And keep an eye on your inbox for info on our five-year reunion, coming up in June!

2019

Tj Aspen Givens and
Emily Gruber
tag2149@columbia.edu
emilyannegruber@gmail.com

Hello, Class of 2019! We missed the bright lights of College Walk at the end of last year and are thinking of all of you. If you would like to share a note or an update with our class for the next issue, please email us at any time — we would love to hear from you. (Or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note!) Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Jackie Brown started a Ph.D. in sociology at UC Berkeley and would love to meet up with any 2019ers in the Bay Area!

We send our best wishes to you in your studies, Jackie!

Last summer, Lake Lund asked **Tj Aspen Givens** to marry him in the cul-de-sac of their new home on closing day. The surprise neighborhood block party with live music from a local artist was even covered by ABC News!

We all send the warmest congratulations to the happy couple, who celebrated alongside **Krys Molina** and **Alejandra Uría** in Tulsa.

Brent Morden has been appointed to direct the Columbia

Taking a moment to celebrate at the Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine Class of 2026 White Coat Ceremony on September 9 in Pasadena were, left to right: Tiger Borjigin-Lee, Elizabeth Borjigin-Lee '20, Jeremy Perna SEAS'20, Evan Day '20 and Bunmi Fariyike SEAS'20.

Athletics Spirit Band, a new band composed of Columbia and Barnard students who perform at select Athletics events.

Brent has also joined Hofstra's Music Department as director of the Hofstra Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Last fall, Brent music-directed a showcase for his original musical *Infernal* in preparation for its projected Off-Broadway run in 2023.

He also continues as program manager for the NYC children's choir nonprofit Every Voice Choirs and as program director for FAIR in the Arts, a national professional network advancing a culture of creative freedom, open-mindedness and excellence in the arts.

Best wishes in your new position and other ventures, Brent!

2020

Stephen Cone and
Kyra Ann Dawkins
jsc2247@columbia.edu
kad2196@columbia.edu

Bailey Nordin has been living and working studying climate change at the South Pole for the last year. She is an atmospheric chemistry technician for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and is responsible for monitoring the regrowth of the ozone hole and other long-term atmospheric trends, with another technician. A winter in Antarctica means spending a year isolated with only 44 other people, six months of continual darkness and temperatures as low as -100 F!

Remington Free is moving to Los Angeles to start a job as an operations systems engineer at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Sean Taylor's first feature film, *Cowboy.mov*, is available to stream on Tubi and Amazon Prime! Give 'er a gander if you're interested in comedy, conspiracy theories, political discourse or the pursuit of lactose.

Robert Willard is in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, teaching English and expanding the initiatives of the World Aral Region Charity (WARC). Last March, along with **Kyra Ann Dawkins, Paola Ripoll** and **Nathan Santos,** he organized an environmental engineering camp at a school in a zone of ecological devastation. Now, the kids are using WARC's water filter and diligently monitoring its environmental projects! The organization is always looking for volunteers to come to Uzbekistan!

Canwen Xu started a job at Chapter, a healthcare tech startup based in New York City.

Thank you to all who submitted notes. We look forward to hearing from more of you soon enough. Please email either of us or submit through the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2021

Mario A. Garcia Jr.
mag2329@columbia.edu

Hey, Class of 2021! I hope all is well and this holiday season had you spending time with those you love and taking much-needed relaxation time for yourself! Additionally, I know 2023 will bring you new adventures and exciting endeavors and can't wait to hear about them. For my own update, at the time of writing, I am in rehearsals for an original show I am producing, *Staten Island! The Musical,* co-written by Sal Volpe '19, GSAS'21. We'll be putting on the show here in New York City at The Tank as well as just across the river in Avenel, N.J., at the Avenel Performing Arts Center. I can't wait to bring this show to life!

William Choi has been an artist and producer in Los Angeles under the stage name Bichuu for the last year. Additionally, he's been touring the world with a Korean entertainment company as a freelancer and tour coordinator. Soon, he'll officially release and promote his own music. He says he feels like after graduating and constantly dedicating himself to his art, he's on the verge of something big. Most importantly, he finally feels like the quality of his work is representative of Columbia and what it stands for. William says would love to talk with fellow alumni who are in the music and/or arts industry who are on the same pathway.

Ivy Allotey SIPA'22 recently completed her dual degree program with SIPA, where she studied urban policy and management. She's an NYC Urban Fellow and is completing her placement at the Department of Veterans' Services, where she is building out its affordable housing unit and juggling research and marketing tasks. She says it is rewarding to be in a position where she can support NYC veterans, an often-underrepresented demographic, in their housing journeys.

Please reach out to me by email with your news or through the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_ class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2022

REUNION 2023
JUNE 1–3
Reunion Contact
ccreunion@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

[Editor's note: Effective with the Summer 2023 issue, we welcome **Mark Anthony Torres** to the role of class correspondent. Send your news to him at mat2223@columbia.edu or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note!]

And now a few words from Mark himself, who lives in Edinburg, Texas: "I competed in my first powerlifting event in Texas and won second place in my age/weight division! I thank the Columbia University Barbell Club for helping me reach this milestone, especially my friend Josh Park GS'27. Another huge thank you, to my Class of 2022 classmates, for providing emotional support during my training phase. And lastly, thank you to the University and my professors for instilling in me the principles of hard work and dedication. Without the Columbia community, I would not have made it through my difficult training."

Columbia Reunion 2023, for classes ending in 3 and 8 and for your class, is scheduled for Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3. Watch for emails from the Alumni Office.

In the meantime, send Mark all your latest news and happenings, and he'll share them in a future issue. Photos should be sent directly to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure they are 750 kb or larger and feature at least two CC alumni (or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple, for "Just Married!").

obituaries

Columbia College Today has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. You can read more about their lives and find featured obituaries for **Arthur S. Rosenbaum '60, SOA'61** and **Richard F. Taruskin '65, GSAS'76** at college.columbia.edu/cct. To submit an obituary for a Columbia College graduate, go to college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_obituary.

1944 **Harold E. Brandmaier,** mechanical engineer, Harrington Park, N.J., on April 11, 2022.

1947 **James M. Grant,** nephrologist, Windham, Vt., on August 3, 2022.

1951 **Edward P. Hardy Jr.,** chemist, Pleasantville, N.Y., on August 24, 2022.

Paul A. Wallace, attorney, Sleepy Hollow, N.Y., on March 3, 2021.

1952 **N. David Charkes,** physician, Collegeville, Pa., on April 1, 2022.

1954 **Lee R. Abramson,** statistician, Silver Spring, Md., on September 3, 2022.

Bernd Brecher, consultant, Bronxville, N.Y., on September 26, 2022.

Stanley Friedman, English professor, Hingham, Mass., on November 18, 2022.

1955 **Richard B. Bloomenstein,** plastic surgeon, Englewood, N.J., on August 8, 2022.

Ezra G. Levin, attorney, Bronx, N.Y., on October 30, 2022.

1957 **Richard J. Brower,** professor, River Edge, N.J., on September 27, 2022.

Alan I. Fine, physician, Warren, N.J., on February 18, 2022.

Gary L. Greer, attorney, Littleton, Colo., on December 3, 2021.

1958 **Robert R. Jespersen,** attorney, Melbourne, Fla., on June 4, 2020.

1959 **Jerry W. Monroe,** attorney, San Diego, on July 13, 2022.

1960 **Bruce Ettinger,** physician, San Francisco, on June 15, 2020.

Arthur S. Rosenbaum, painter and folk music preservationist, Athens, Ga., on September 4, 2022.

L. Steven Zwerling, educator and writer, New York City, on June 18, 2022.

1961 **Stanley L. Nash,** professor, Bloomington, Ind., on July 1, 2022.

Norman J. Schneider, dentist, New York City, on September 3, 2022.

1962 **Howard R. Relin,** district attorney, Canandaigua, N.Y., on December 7, 2022.

1963 **Zev Bar-Lev,** professor, San Diego, on July 26, 2022.

1964 **Jay M. Portnow,** physician, Rockville, Md., on July 25, 2022.

1965 **Leslie E. "Les" Patlove,** furniture builder, Charlemont, Mass., on August 27, 2020.

Richard F. Taruskin, musicologist, writer and educator, El Cerrito, Calif., on July 1, 2022.

1966 **Paul A. Burt,** film collector and projectionist, San Francisco, on January 5, 2022.

Michael E. Feingold, theater critic, dramaturge, translator, lyricist and adapter, New York City, on November 21, 2022.

Thomas Kalfa, airline executive, Cerritos, Calif., on March 16, 2022.

Thomas M.H. Kappner, professor, New York City, on September 16, 2022.

1969 **R. Bruce Dickson,** attorney, Chevy Chase, Md., on November 11, 2022.

Jeffrey M. Rainer, pianist and music educator, White Plains, N.Y., on August 14, 2022.

1970 **Ronald A. Fischman,** physician, Los Angeles, on May 16, 2022.

1971 **David H. McEwan,** marketing executive, Bluffton, S.C., on October 17, 2022.

1975 **Howard Blatt,** sports writer and author, Rockville, Md., on October 3, 2022.

1979 **Andrew M. Elliott,** accountant, Charlotte, N.C., on December 2, 2021.

1982 **Victor F. Lopez,** systems analyst, New York City, on October 30, 2022.

1984 **Adam M. Sutner,** ski resort executive, Crystal Mountain, Wash., on April 4, 2022.

1987 **Melanie R. Roche,** energy healer, The Hague, Netherlands, on September 29, 2022.

1988 **Sherry F. Colb,** law professor, Ithaca, N.Y., on August 25, 2022.

1990 **Christopher P. Ziadie,** athlete and teacher, Hollywood, Fla., on September 18, 2022.

1992 **Katina Pearl-Blando,** manager and consultant, Robbinsville, N.J., on October 1, 2022.

Greg A. Pollowitz, web content creator, Miami, on September 17, 2022.

1993 **Srilakshmi "Sangeeth" Kottai Gnanasekaran,** physician, Cairo, Egypt, on September 11, 2022.

1998 **Meena Merchant,** filmmaker and artist, Renton, Wash., on August 15, 2022.

read*it*online

COURTESY WPVI-TV

JIM GARDNER '70: THE TOAST OF PHILADELPHIA

By Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80

Walking into Philly's Famous 4th Street Delicatessen for lunch on a recent weekday, Jim Gardner '70 was greeted warmly by a customer in a flowing white Islamic robe and kufi cap. "We're going to miss you, man," the well-wisher said. A short time later, as Gardner tucked into a mountainous half-portion of hot pastrami on rye, an elderly Jewish man stopped by the table to insist, "You're too young to retire! Stick around."

Life has been like that for Gardner ever since he announced he would step down at the end of 2022 after more than 45 consecutive years anchoring the evening news at Philadelphia's Channel 6 Action News on the local ABC station, WPVI. Needless to say, 45 years is an eye-popping tenure in the competitive world of TV news, exceeded only by Chuck Scarborough of New York's WNBC. "It's been a great run," Gardner says.

And then some. Broadcasting in the nation's fourth-largest media market, WPVI's news programming has swamped its competition in audience ratings for decades. Gardner has earned enduring admiration and loyalty across the social and political spectrum by consistently delivering a straightforward, responsible news report with authentic charm and humanity. (Not to mention humor, as in his memorable account of the fiery demise of a Channel 6 Action News vehicle.) Job number one, Gardner says, has always been to stick to the facts and report fairly, without artifice. "We give our audience tremendous respect, and they repay us with trust. People can tell right away if you're faking it, if you're acting."

Get the story at **college.columbia.edu/cct**

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COLUMBIA REUNION 2023

THURSDAY, JUNE 1–SATURDAY, JUNE 3

Mark your calendars for Columbia Reunion 2023, scheduled for Thursday, June 1–Saturday, June 3, and open to all alumni with special celebrations for the milestone classes: those ending in 3 and 8, and the Class of 2022. Your Columbia connections are more meaningful than ever, so plan to join us for inspiring programs, social get-togethers and much more!

Visit college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion for details.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION | COLUMBIA REUNION

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STUDENT FICTION CONTEST WINNER

ABBY SIM '24 HAS THE WRITE STUFF

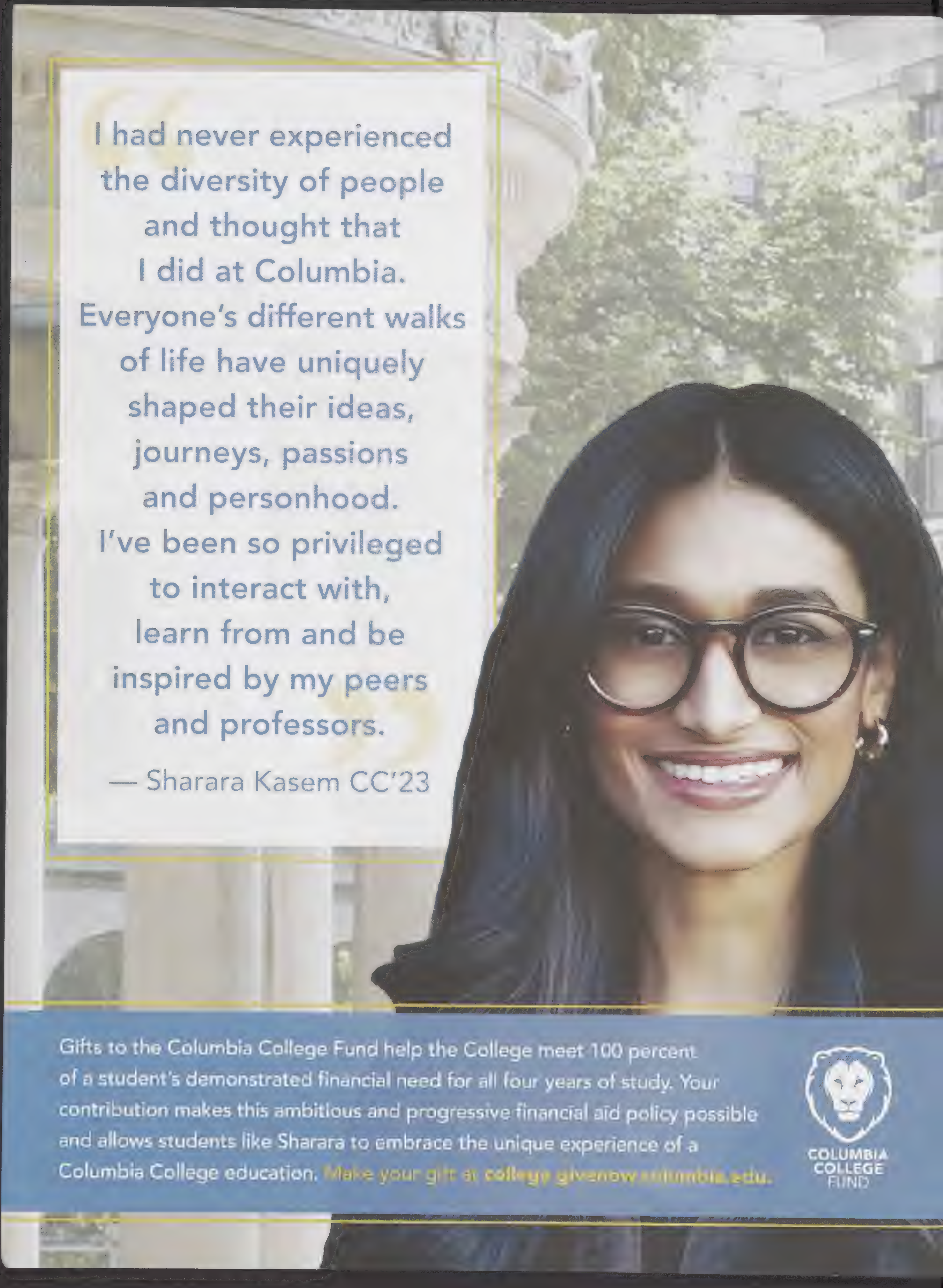
DRIVEN BY DATA

HOW HAVE OUR LIVES BEEN SHAPED BY ALGORITHMS?

The New York Times Magazine
ALMA MATER
COLUMBIA RECOVE
By Morris Dickstein

Blast From the Past

An iconic moment on campus, relived by the alums who were there



I had never experienced the diversity of people and thought that I did at Columbia. Everyone's different walks of life have uniquely shaped their ideas, journeys, passions and personhood. I've been so privileged to interact with, learn from and be inspired by my peers and professors.

— Sharara Kasem CC'23

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Two professors detail how we came to live in a world driven by algorithms.

By Jill C. Shomer

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Columbia College Celebrates a "Remarkable and Resilient" Class

May 16's Class Day ceremony included moving speeches by Dean Josef Sorett and Katori Hall '03.

Cover: The New York Times Magazine, *May 15, 1988, photographed by Jörg Meyer; issue supplied by Columbia University Archives.*

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ONLINE
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THAN EVER!

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JORG MEYER

Within the Family

One Last Class

For those who work in education, the rhythms of our year are tied more to semesters and academic ceremonies than to any turn of the calendar page. As I write this at the end of May, we have recently finished the season of the cap and gown — a joyful stretch marked by mortarboards and happy tears. This year, however, I found myself preoccupied with thinking about one particular rite: the graduation speech. It is a genre unto itself, added to every year by luminaries of all kinds. The speech essentially offers seniors one last class before they receive their diplomas — a mix of advice, reflection, humor, observation and inspiration.

Speeches of course operate on multiple levels. They move crowds and create collective experience; they also speak to an audience of one. Greatness occurs in the electric transmission when a passage strikes you, stirs you, stays with you. I have read author David Foster Wallace's words to the Kenyon College Class of 2005 once a year since discovering them over a decade ago. His call to exercise empathy by stepping outside the kingdom of our own minds always gives me a shoulder shake, a welcome re-centering in the midst of everyday life and routine.

This year, Columbia College graduates were addressed by several speakers whose messages will surely resonate beyond just the audience present at Class Day. I would urge you to set aside time to take in the speeches by Dean Josef Sorett and playwright Katori Hall '03, as well as by the class' student speaker, Wadzanayi Michelle Mayiseni '23. All can be viewed online (bit.ly/3oA2AlN), and Sorett's speech is also excerpted on page 6. His meditation on ethics and aesthetics aptly draws on authors and thinkers from the Core Curriculum, and his charge to the graduates to make space for beauty in their lives is, in fact, a meaningful message for us all.

Hall, meanwhile, shared stories from her own life to illustrate several potent pieces of advice. I've found myself lingering over her reminder to "never come up missing in your own mirror." That each of us has an obligation to find and use our voice, and to represent ourselves, is vital — tied to our sense of self as well as to how we contribute to the larger world. As Hall said, "Your reflection demands to be seen."

Graduation isn't the only thing on our minds this issue. Our cover story, "Blast from the Past," was the result of intense detective work, tracking down alumni who improbably found themselves on the cover of *The New York Times Magazine* 35 years ago. That photograph and the article that accompanied it were commissioned in connection with the 20th anniversary of the 1968 protests. And yet, the 1988 image has itself become iconic, capturing an idyllic Steps experience that has been shared by Columbia students across generations. We enjoyed the meta twist of layering anniversaries, and of putting together an oral history that documents how that day came to be and what it means to those who were part of it.

Elsewhere in the issue, we are thrilled to publish "Bone to Pick," the winning story from our student short fiction contest, by Abby Sim '24. (With thanks to our judges, the authors Danielle Evans '04, Adam Mansbach '98, SOA'00 and Yvonne Woon '06, SOA'10.) And we catch up with Professors Chris Wiggins '93 and Matthew L. Jones; their recent book was born from their popular undergraduate class about the past, present and future of data. It's essential reading for anyone who wants to understand how we came to live in a world ruled by algorithms — and how we might reshape our current trajectory.

Congratulations to our graduates! Have a great summer.

alexis Boncy

Alexis Boncy SOA'11
Editor-in-Chief

CCT Columbia College Today

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JORG MEYER

Remembering a Master Cartoonist

The incomparable Edward Koren ’57, whose distinctive cartoons enlivened the pages of *The New Yorker* for upward of six decades, died on April 14, 2023; he was 87. In a 2021 interview with *CCT*, Koren credited Columbia’s humor magazine, *Jester*, for launching him on his career path; he began contributing in his first year and as a senior became editor-in-chief. Here, we pay tribute with a selection of his work through the years. Read *CCT*’s obituary at college.columbia.edu/cct.

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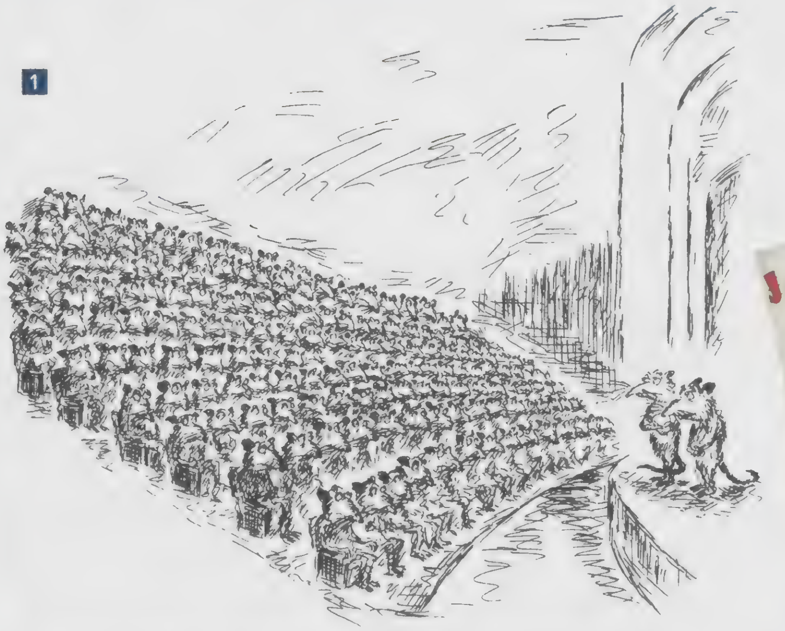
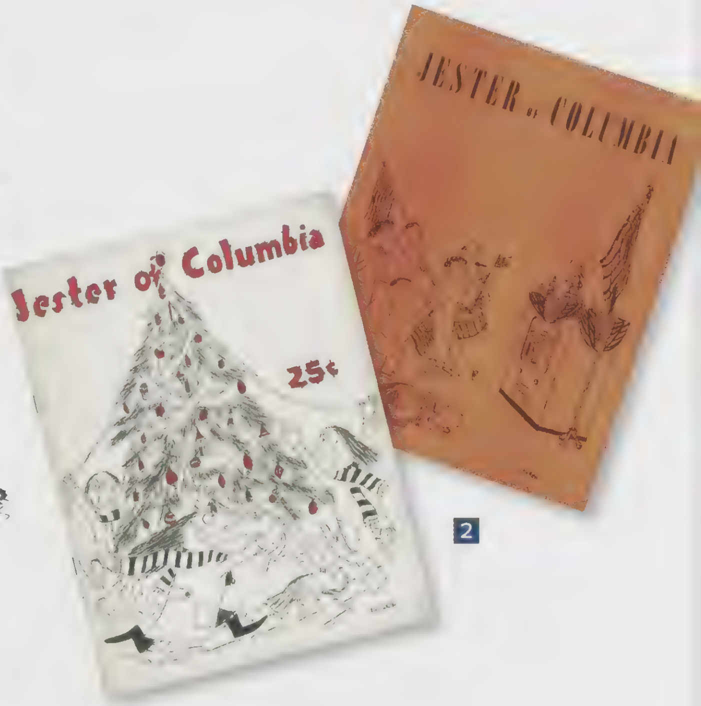


“Your father and I want to explain why we’ve decided to live apart.”



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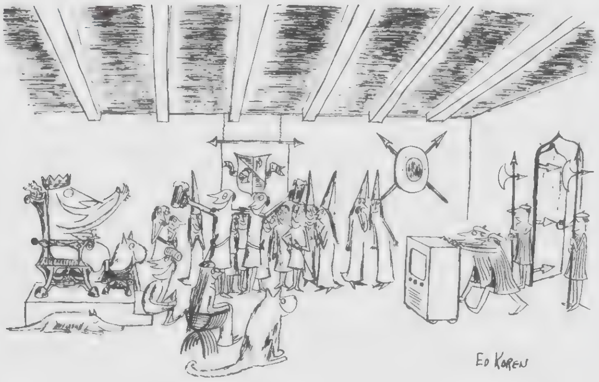

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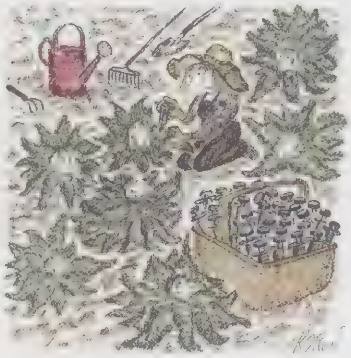

“In the community garden.”

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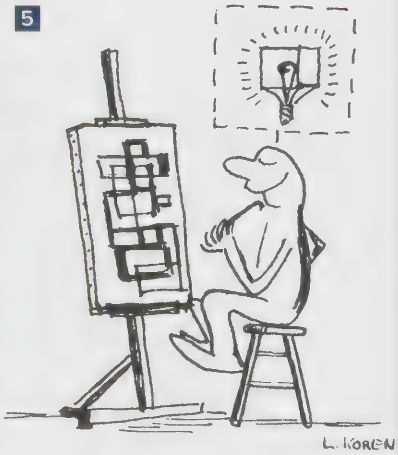
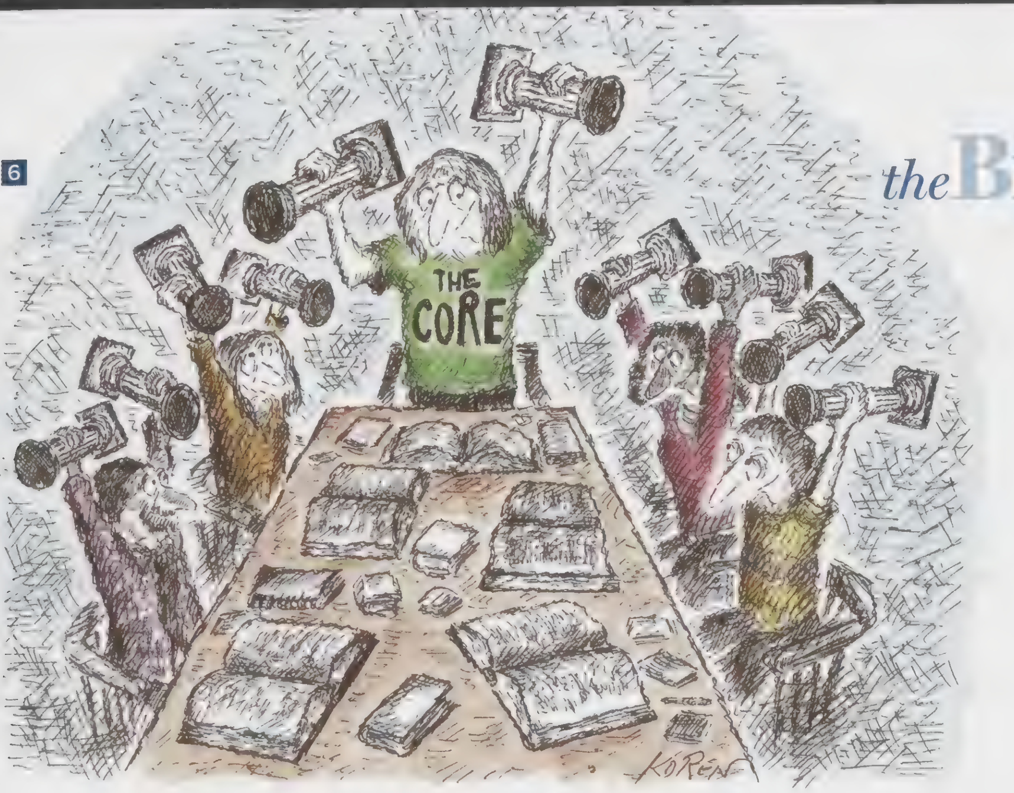


the Big Picture

6



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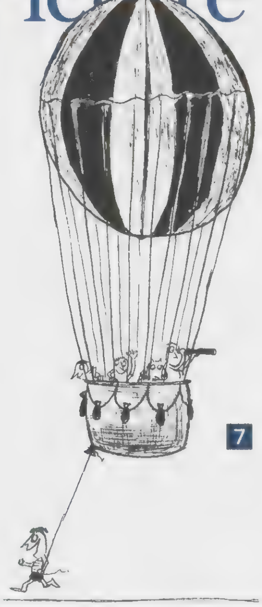

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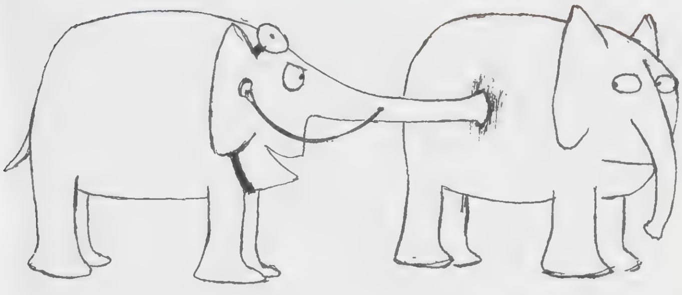

"Now, inhale . . . !"

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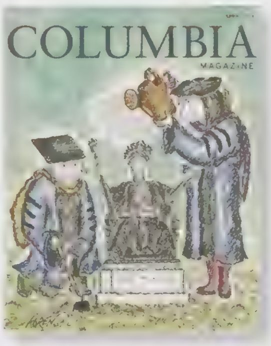

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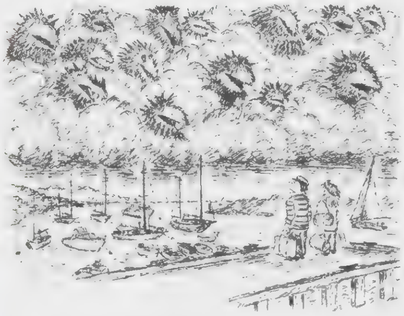
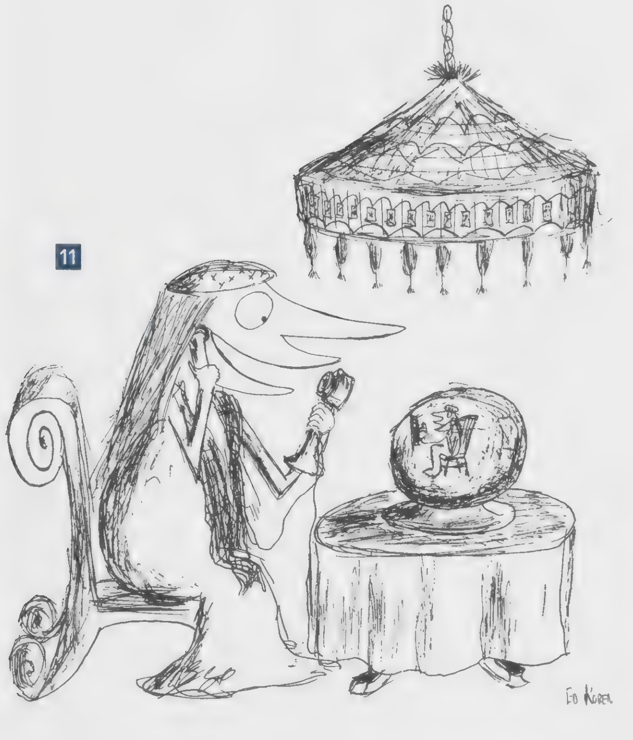


"The weather looks a little iffy."

11



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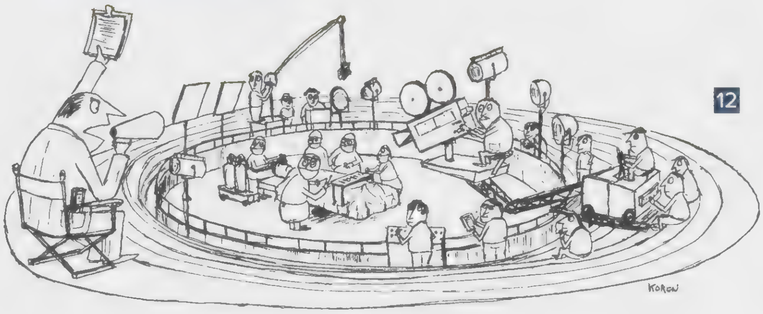


"Cut!"

1. *The New Yorker,* February 6, 1995

2. *Jester* covers, December 1955 and October 1956

3. *Jester,* 1954–55

4. *CCT,* Spring/Summer 2021

5. *Jester,* 1953–54

6. *CCT*-commissioned cartoon for the Fall 2019 Core Cartoon Caption Contest

7. *Jester,* October 1955

8. *Jester,* October 1956

9. *Columbia,* Spring 2014

10. *The New Yorker,* August 31, 1987

11. *Jester,* 1954–55

12. *Jester,* November 1956

1, 10: COURTESY CURTIS KOREN;
2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12: COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Message from the Dean

"Make Space for Beauty"

EILEEN BARROSO

On May 16, at Class Day, I addressed the resilient and remarkable Class of 2023, which will always hold a special place for me as my first graduating class. What follows is an excerpt from my speech, in which I explore the relationship between ethics and aesthetics.

To bring to a close
What is to do
What is to happen

Appropriate to an occasion that is an end and a beginning at once, the above poem was penned by Korean-American poet Myung Mi Kim. "Lamenta 502" is taken from her 2002 book, *Commons,* which appears on the syllabus for Literature Humanities, a key part of your first year at Columbia.

Lit Hum is part of your unique heritage as Columbia College students; that is, the Core Curriculum and the rich tradition of liberal arts education it represents. You have developed habits of mind that will serve you for a lifetime, enabling you to interrogate and understand the world around you. Your majors and concentrations in the arts and sciences have deepened your knowledge and expertise. And, if we did our jobs right, the way you see the world has evolved, and you are graduating today motivated by the belief that you have the power — and obligation — to change it for the better.

The work of W.E.B. Du Bois is an important touchstone for me in this regard. Perhaps some of you will recall this passage from your time in Contemporary Civilization. In his 1903 classic, *The Souls of Black Folks,* Du Bois wrote the following: "The function of the university is not simply to teach breadwinning, or to furnish teachers for the public schools, or to be a center of polite society; it is, above all, to be the organ of that fine adjustment between real life and the growing knowledge of life, an adjustment which forms the secret of civilization."

In this next phase of your life, the responsibilities you confront will often be ones you choose and define: your professional path, your family life and the communities you claim and that claim you. Others will exceed, or even frustrate, your choices and plans. In all of these instances — no matter what shape or form they take — you will have the opportunity to bring what you have learned to bear as you take action. Put another way, as current and future leaders, you will have the chance — and the responsibility — to uphold the values you cherish and to add value to the world around you. You will no doubt do well for yourselves. You are Lions, after all. Yet I exhort you to also do good, as complicated and naive as these two simple words might be.

In a 1993 interview with *The Paris Review,* the late novelist and Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison, whom you read in Literature Humanities, shared the following: "I think of beauty as an absolute necessity ... I think it's almost like knowledge, which is to say, it's what we're born for ... ."

It is in that spirit that I want to impart a final thought — a charge, if you will. Amidst the pressures and complications that will confront you in the years to come, and in the face of the ugliness that can intrude in our society, make space for beauty in your life. Help cultivate it in others and sustain spaces for it to flourish, as much as you are able. And take an expansive view of the places, things and people to which you ascribe beauty.

It can be found everywhere. In the arts to be sure — where your shared grounding in the humanities will serve you for a lifetime — but also in simple human interaction, in the routines of daily life, in your neighborhood, the workplace, in relationships and in the context of communities of every kind that surround you.

There is a kind of ordinary activism to be found in apprehending and amplifying the beauty around you. Seeking it, discerning it and striving to name it will enrich your lives, and the lives of those within — but also those beyond — your reach. Beauty is the great hope for our shared present and futures.

Each of you is now on a threshold; what's next beckons. The great works, struggles and joys of the years ahead are waiting for you, but you're not there yet. This time — the in-betweenness of it — can feel strange, and that is as it should be. You are embarking on the process of defining your place in a world that is often turbulent and unsettled. And that world calls out for your voice, for your ideas and for your energy. Trust yourself. Trust the questions that drove you as a student. Trust the sparks that ignite your interests and passions. Trust the impulse to ascertain what and where the good is. Trust beauty wherever you find it, and make beauty wherever you find yourself. And trust the hope it represents.

Your Columbia College education has imbued you with the skills to think critically, learn, debate and innovate. It is now your responsibility to use these tools in the service of building and leading a more beautiful world.

Josef Sorett
Dean of Columbia College and the Henry L. and Lucy G. Moses Professor
Vice President for Undergraduate Education
Professor of Religion and African American & African Diaspora Studies

Around the Quads

University Names Minouche Shafik 20th President

Nemat "Minouche" Shafik, an economist whose career has been focused on public policy and academia, will become the 20th president of Columbia University — and the first woman to lead the University — on July 1. Her election by the Board of Trustees concluded a wide-ranging and intensive search following President Lee C. Bollinger's announcement that he would step down at the end of the 2022–23 academic year.

In a letter to the community, Jonathan S. Lavine '88, chair of the Trustees, called Shafik "the perfect candidate: a brilliant and able global leader, a community builder and a preeminent economist who understands the academy and the world beyond it."

Most recently, Shafik was president of the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), a role she held since 2017. There, she oversaw vast improvements to the student experience, recruited talented academic leaders and managed significant expansion and infrastructure projects. She is a tireless proponent of diversity and inclusion and a creative and thoughtful leader committed to cultivating and promoting service to the public good.

Shafik has edited, co-authored or authored numerous articles and books, including her most recent work, *What We Owe Each Other: A New Social Contract.* She was also the first female leader of LSE and was the first female permanent secretary of the United Kingdom's Department for International Development. She began her career at the World Bank, and at 36 became its youngest VP.

Born in Alexandria, Egypt, Shafik earned a B.A. in economics and politics from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, an M.S. in economics from LSE and a Ph.D. in economics from St Antony's College, Oxford University.

In an interview with Columbia News, Shafik affirmed her commitment to the Core Curriculum, which she described as providing the "foundation for citizenship" and cultivating in people the "capacity to think for themselves." She added that she looks forward to engaging with students, whom she said are "important partners in thinking about how to improve the student experience, what their education should encompass, as well as participating in the research and the intellectual life of the University."

MARK BADER

New Trustees Co-Chairs

Claire Shipman '86, SIPA'94 and David Greenwald LAW'83 will be the next co-chairs of the Board of Trustees, the University announced in May. The two are currently vice-chairs, and will assume their new roles on September 1, when Jonathan S. Lavine '88 concludes his five-year term as chair. (Lavine was co-chair with Lisa Carnoy '89 from 2018 to 2022.)

Among their many contributions to Columbia, Shipman and Greenwald recently served on the Presidential Search Committee that oversaw the process of selecting Minouche Shafik as President Lee C. Bollinger's successor. In addition, Shipman received the 2022 Alexander Hamilton Medal, the highest honor awarded to a member of the Columbia College community, which recognizes distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

"It's one of the great privileges of my life to serve Columbia in this role," said Shipman, a journalist, author and public speaker who is an expert on confidence and women's leadership. "My life was transformed by the University, as is the case for thousands of students each year. Today, Columbia's dedication to cutting-edge research, to the pursuit of knowledge and to tackling the great problems of humanity makes it one of the world's most vital institutions."

MARISSA RAUCH

Shipman Greenwald

....

Trilling and Van Doren Awards

Hamid Dabashi, the Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature, and Achille C. Varzi, the John Dewey Professor of Philosophy, have been honored with the 48th annual Lionel Trilling Book Award and the 62nd annual Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching,

Dabashi Varzi

respectively. The awards are given annually by the Academic Awards Committee of the Columbia College Student Council.

Dabashi, the director of undergraduate studies for the Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies, was selected for his book *The End of Two Illusions: Islam after the West* (2022). The committee noted that it appreciated "the multidimensional view provided by the remarkable balance between cogent analyses of contemporary phenomena and deep dives into history and culture."

Varzi, who teaches an array of undergraduate and graduate classes in logic, metaphysics, the philosophy of language and the history of philosophy, was recognized as an "enthralling lecturer." The committee further noted that he invests "significant amounts of time, thought and resources into creating an optimal learning environment for his students, paving the way for pedagogical exploration and unforgettable experiences during their time at Columbia."

SIRIN SAMMAN

Maya Villasenor SEAS'24 (center) made the winning presentation in the rapid-fire pitch competition; here, she receives her team's prize from the judges and CCW executive board members.

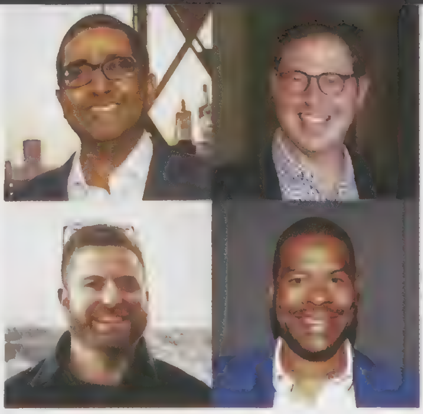
CCW Celebrates Entrepreneurship

More than 100 attendees turned out for the annual Columbia College Women's Signature Event, held this year on March 24 at Faculty House. The gathering, which celebrated entrepreneurship and empowerment, was headlined by an exclusive talk with Kathleen King, founder of Tate's Bake Shop, and Nancy Pak '90, BUS'95, CEO of Walden Local Meat and former CEO of Tate's.

The event also featured a rapid-fire pitch contest, in which entrepreneurs and their teams from across Columbia's schools competed *Shark Tank*-style. The entries were judged by King and Pak as well as Sherri Pancer Wolf '90, president of the Columbia College Alumni Association; Professor R.A. Farrokhnia GS'00, BUS'04; and Roxann Smithers '99, LAW'02.

The judges' winner and recipient of a $2,000 prize was Paper Planes, presented by Maya Villasenor SEAS'24. The audience-selected winner and recipient of private coaching sessions by the judges was Argonauts, presented by Elsa Johnson SPS'24.

The event concluded with a chance to network and visit pop-ups staged by Columbia entrepreneurs. Food, law, marketing, and health and beauty were among the industries represented.



Honorees, clockwise from top left: Mohan, Stone, Lilly and Zappacosta.

West Coast Honors

The Columbia College Alumni Association and Dean Josef Sorett kicked off the inaugural West Coast Honors in March, introducing two awards that will annually celebrate members of the College's West Coast community. The Trailblazer Award honors individuals for their pioneering and distinguished service or volunteerism to the College, and the Spirit of Creativity and Innovation Award is for exceptional professional achievement.

The 2023 Trailblazer Award went to Vijay Mohan '01, co-founder and partner, Sixth Street; and James Stone '90, head of West Coast Investment, PennantPark. The Spirit of Creativity and Innovation Award went to Courtney Lilly '97, executive producer and showrunner of the ABC sitcoms *black-ish*, *grown-ish* and *mixed-ish*; and Marco Zappacosta '07, co-founder and CEO of Thumbtack. The honorees were celebrated at two events: in San Francisco on March 15 and in Los Angeles on March 16. More than 150 alumni and guests attended.

Class of 2027 Admissions Decisions

A total of 2,246 students were offered admission to the Class of 2027 by Columbia College and Columbia Engineering. Undergraduate Admissions announced final application numbers in March, which reflect a combination of applications received during the early decision and regular decision cycles. The schools received a total of 57,129 applications, the third largest applicant pool in Columbia's history. This year's admission rate was 3.9 percent.

The admitted class hails from all 50 states (as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and American Samoa, and the Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands and U.S. Virgin Islands) and 101 countries.

JILL SHOMER

Benjamin Steege '00

By Jill C. Shomer

Music Humanities chair Benjamin Steege '00 had a revelation about the course during a class visit to the Metropolitan Opera in November 2021.

Steege, an associate professor of music, historical musicology and music theory, recalls teaching Music Hum in Spring 2020, when classes went virtual amidst the outbreak of Covid-19 and trips to live performances were suspended indefinitely. "There were some very moving moments teaching this material online to students who were really scared," he says. "A lot of them told me they were grateful to just focus on listening to music. They found it reassuring."

When classes resumed attending performances the following year, Steege was aware that an evening at the opera had new significance. "It became extremely clear that we can no longer take the continuity of the arts for granted," he says. "I started realizing that what Music Hum is actually about is the survival of art forms."

Steege says he now tries to impart to students — who have grown up with the ability to download whatever tunes they want — that having centuries of music to study is not a given. "How has music survived? And what is it that we have to do as a society to keep it alive?" he says. "It's important for the course to ask these big questions."

Steege joined the faculty in 2012, after earning a Harvard Ph.D. in 2007 and then teaching at Stony Brook University. He was a music major at the College and researched the history of music perception in graduate school. "I was looking at 19th-century physiologists who were figuring out how the ear worked, and were describing how people listen to and understand music alongside the development of the mind sciences," he says.

He recently finished his first year as Music Hum chair, which he says has largely been a learning stage, spent observing different sections and talking to faculty across the Core Curriculum to see what people are interested in before beginning next year's syllabus review.

Thinking ahead to that process, Steege would like to see questions about digital media foregrounded. "Students are ready to talk about things like who owns music or what is considered stealing versus borrowing," he says. "It also feeds into cultural appropriation, which is a theme that instructors are already dealing with. I think there might be ways to make these conversations more programmatic."

He also thinks there's room for greater diversity on the syllabus. "We spend half the semester in the 20th century, but it's a very American 20th century," he says. "Some of the most exciting places for jazz or classical music right now are not in the Western hemisphere — Seoul, Tokyo, Cape Town, Accra. So I do think it's important for us to acknowledge a more global perspective."

A course-wide opera outing has long been a Music Hum tradition; this past semester Steege took 800 students (over three nights) to see a contemporary opera by a Black composer: Terence Blanchard's 2013 boxing tragedy *Champion*. "It was a gamble going to something that none of the instructors had seen before, but we thought it was a risk worth taking," he says. "Blanchard was the first Black composer the Met had ever produced [in 2021], and it allows us to ask questions about the roles of race and representation at a major institution like that."

Steege played the piano growing up in Massachusetts, but opted not to pursue conservatory or a career in performance. In addition to Music Hum, he also teaches music theory; he enjoys the unexpected in the classroom, "when students at any level have questions you just do not see coming," he says. "You have to think through your premises carefully and be prepared, sort of on the fly, to rethink them."

He returns to the subject of Music Hum: "Douglas Moore, the composer who helped create the course in the late 1940s, said something like, 'Music is a secret language.' And I think that is fantastically wrong," Steege says. "Students have a lot of understanding about what music is doing for them, that they maybe just can't articulate as clearly.

"I think the main thing the class should do is give students the opportunity to shape their thoughts, and give them a sense of confidence in forming judgments about music," he says. "We're not trying to teach them, 'This stuff is great, and you should love it.'"

JENNA BASCOM PHOTOGRAPHY

Did*You*Know?

Butler's Intricate Iron Gates Have a Long History

Since Butler Library opened its doors in November 1934, tens of thousands of students have passed through the two iconic iron gates that lead from the lobby to the first-floor hallways. The gates were forged in 1934 by Philadelphia-based master blacksmith Samuel Yellin. A prolific metalworker, Yellin designed pieces such as window grates, light fixtures and gates that are found in buildings across the United States, including The Cloisters, Harvard University, the Salt Lake City Cathedral and the Detroit Public Library.

Student*Spotlight*

Haroon Arain '24

Meet Haroon Arain '24 (he/him), co-president of the Columbia Culinary Society. A Washington Heights native who is dedicated to showcasing and sharing the amazing food in his hometown, Arain is a neuroscience major with a concentration in chemistry.

Do you have a favorite thing you've done with the Culinary Society?

The biggest thing so far was Columbia Restaurant Week [in late January]; that was a lot of fun. We modeled it after New York Restaurant Week; we reached out to local restaurants and partnered with them to offer discounts for students who showed their ID. It worked out great! One night [during Restaurant Week] I was at Anār, which is one of my favorite restaurants, and I overheard some students talking about how much they appreciated that it was happening!

What's been your favorite class at the College so far?

I really liked "Cognitive Neuroscience," taught by Mariam Aly; that was super fun. As a neuroscience major, I'm interested in philosophical ideas of the brain in addition to scientific ideas, and she really touched on that.

What do you like to do outside of class and the Culinary Society?

I enjoy playing guitar and trying to make music. I'm also a huge cricket enthusiast — I'm always trying to find people on campus who are interested in cricket!

How do you like to take advantage of being in New York City?

I'm from Washington Heights, so I have the ability to pretend to know all about New York. I like showing people my favorite spots. I especially love to show off Washington Heights — that area is so peaceful and calm, and a lot of people don't go there, especially students.

JILL SHOMER

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ROAR, LION, ROAR

Women's Wrestling Aims To Make History

The club team wants to be the first varsity program in the Ivy League

By Alexis Boncy SOA'11

The Andrew F. Barth Wrestling Room in Dodge Fitness Center wears its history proudly. Banners proclaim championships; portraits of All-Americans are painted on the wall. Boldest of all is the blue-and-white sign that declares: The Nation's Oldest Wrestling Program, Established 1903.

These days, practicing in this same room, another wrestling team has served notice of its own historic intentions: the Columbia women's club program.

The team became the first of its kind in the Ivy League when it was founded in early 2020, and the women aim to lead the way again by being first of the Ivies to reach varsity status. But the club is as much about education as elite competition, a duality that's given rise to one of its most defining characteristics: an all-comers culture that embraces athletes from novice to nationally ranked.

"It's nice to have the spectrum. So much growth happens quickly with people who are new, and the experienced women become mentors in addition to fine-tuning and challenging themselves," says Coach Emma Randall, who is also head coach of the New York City Regional Training Center (NYCRTC) women's wrestling program. "It's a cycle where we all feed each other — whether it's with energy and being fans of one another, or with advice, maybe doing an extra workout together. I love the way they all lift each other up."

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN HOCH

Three-time All-American Maya Letona '24 (right) at the Princeton Open.

That lift was on display with the 15 women who turned out to practice one night in April — including in the "she just flipped her partner over her arm" sense. Maya Letona '24, a three-time All-American, frequently stepped to the center to volunteer pointers and help Randall demonstrate moves. Club president Talia Fine '23, spying two teammates having trouble with a drill, jogged over to offer encouragement. There was lots of laughter, but the intensity was no joke: push-ups, sit-ups, squat jumps, knee slides (imagine dropping to one knee like you were proposing marriage, then using your other foot to push yourself across the floor — repeatedly). Later, everyone paired off to spar. "I want your head and shoulder *glued* to your partner!" Randall shouted.

For the uninitiated, women's wrestling has been growing in profile for close to 35 years. The first World Championships were held in 1989, and it debuted at the Summer Olympics in 2004. At the high school level, 36 states have sanctioned the sport (meaning schools have teams with a full schedule and championship opportunities) — a total of more than 33,000 wrestlers in 2022. All that interest is translating to college; as of last fall, there were 132 women's collegiate programs nationwide. The NCAA, meanwhile, is set to consider whether to elevate women's wrestling from "emerging sport" status and begin sponsoring a national championship. (NCAA teams currently compete in the National Collegiate Women's Wrestling Championship.)

At Columbia, Fine was instrumental in launching the club, taking the reins from Brianna Csontos '20. (Kyra Tirana

The women's club wrestling team welcomed athletes and coaches from across the Northeast for their "Wrestle Like A Girl" event at Levien Gym.

Barry '87, a former team leader for the U.S. Women's National Wrestling Team, was also a key supporter.) A California native, Fine's passion for the sport stemmed from an experience with serious illness; afterward, she wanted to feel strong and connected to her body again. But Fine's high school didn't have a team, and she had to travel to a different school with a boys' team in order to access coaches and a gym. "There were only a couple of other girls for me to wrestle with; it was really inconsistent," she said. As a College first-year, she was eager for camaraderie.

The Covid-19 pandemic made for a bumpy start, however; the ink on the team's official paperwork was barely dry, so to speak, when the University shut down, and virtual workouts weren't exactly conducive to building momentum. When campus life resumed in fall 2021, Fine and other early club members undertook a major outreach campaign. "We talked to everyone who walked by," she recalled. "Anytime someone said 'no,' we said, 'We can teach you, help you be fit, help you get strong.'

"There can be a mental block," Fine added. "People see wrestling as aggressive — you're close to another person, it can be scary. Part of growing the sport is making sure people feel confident and safe enough to try it and discover if it's right for them." Their efforts were persuasive: 75 people came to their first practice, and about 25 signed on for the year.

Today, the club has roughly that same number of members. They hit the mats for practice 20 hours a week, plus one night a week of weightlifting. For those who want it, there are opportunities to train with the men's team, as well as at the NYCRTC. The competition schedule is a mix of local tournaments and dual meets, with top-tier wrestlers traveling for national events.

Randall, who is a former member of Team USA's national coaching staff as well as a past head girls' coach and program director for Beat the Streets NYC, has been with the club since nearly the beginning. Along with Letona, other formidable wrestlers include Arian Carpio GS'28, a former representative for Team USA (she's in the midst of changing her citizenship with the goal of becoming the first Filipina wrestler in the Olympics); and Alina Antillon BC'26, who recently fell one match short of becoming All-American at her age group trials. Among the incoming first-years are Kaylie Musard SEAS'27, a two-time state finalist from Maryland, and Kira Pipkins '27, a four-time state champion from New Jersey.

Looking ahead, it's largely up to the administration to determine whether to grant varsity status; there isn't a formal checklist of requirements, Randall says. But the club needs to continue building out a clear competition schedule as well as fundraising to endow the program "so that we can build a locker room, cover equipment needs, things like that."

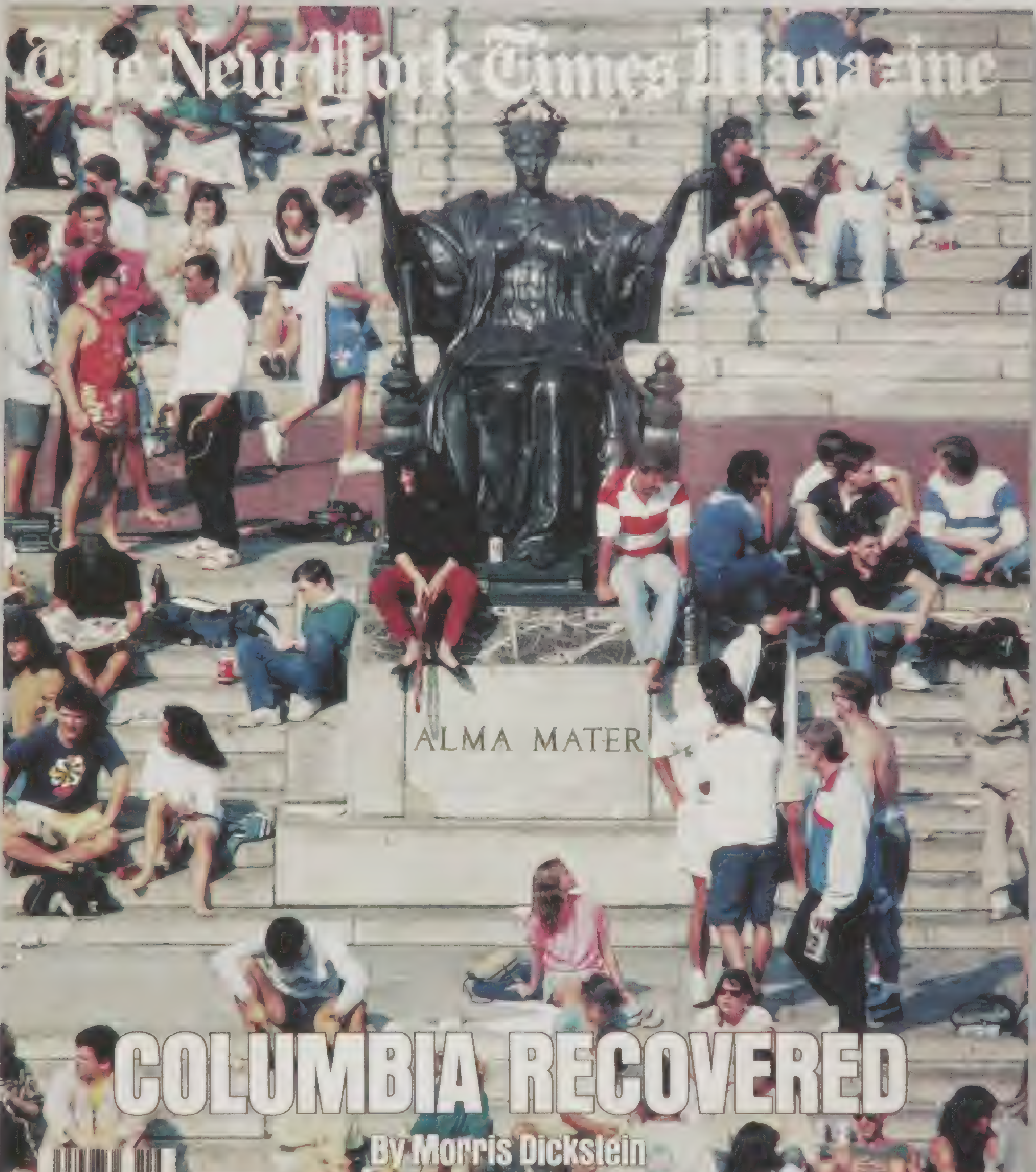
"We're also focusing on creating a community on campus where our women feel welcome and loved in the room, and also have a presence — going to men's tournaments, going to the women's basketball games, being supportive. Not just [at Columbia] but also watching New York City high school girls wrestle at their events. And in turn we hope they show up at our ours."

Coach Emma Randall

As for Fine, moving on is bittersweet. After graduation she wants to stay involved with wrestling, perhaps by coaching or refereeing. She always knew that she wouldn't see the team become varsity, she says, but is confident it's in good hands. And she's proud to have gotten things off the ground.

"Every time I walk in the room and see girls chatting with each other, putting on their shoes, getting ready for this practice we're about to do together, I get really happy," Fine said. "Like I did something good for them and their college careers, and for their future. I really feel I found the team of women I always wanted."

The New York Times Magazine



COLUMBIA RECOVERED

By Morris Dickstein

BLAST FROM THE PAST

An iconic moment on campus, relived by the alums who were there

By Alexis Boncy SOA'11

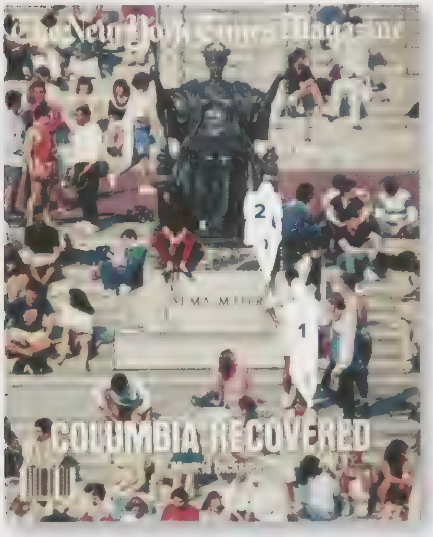
Responses have been edited for length and clarity.

ON MAY 15, 1988, *The New York Times Magazine* published a cover story under the headline "Columbia Recovered." What it had recovered *from* required no explanation. The 1968 protests had been one of the largest uprisings in the history of American universities, and two decades on from that shattering event, cultural historian Morris Dickstein '61 returned to the University to see what changes had occurred.

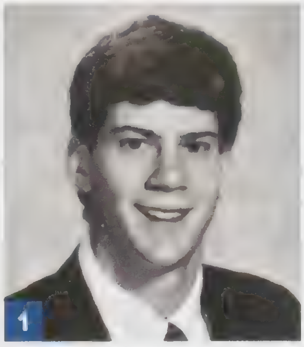
The sense of a community healed was perhaps most vividly captured by the magazine's cover — a photo of the Steps on a sunny spring day, teeming with students relaxing, reading, talking, laughing. This was campus life at its most ordinary, but it was also emblematic of the Columbia experience: undergraduates coming together in the landmark space that every student calls their own.

And yet, for some people, the photo captured their specific experience. Filming for the video yearbook. Doing a crossword puzzle. Drinking a Pepsi. Who were the students arrayed outside Low Library that afternoon? Thirty-five years later, we decided to find out. From a literal long shot filled with half-obscured faces, we slowly chipped away at IDs. A few were surprised to see their younger selves in the image, but many more remembered the long-ago jolt of discovering they were on the cover of the *Times* magazine.

Ultimately, we found and interviewed 19 alumni, asking them to look back on the day the photo was taken, how they learned they were in it and what it means to them. We also sought out the photographer to get her behind-the-scenes perspective. Their recollections form a kind of oral history of this now-iconic image. Here's what they said. >>



The New York Times Magazine, May 15, 1988, photographed by Jörg Meyer; issue supplied by Columbia University Archives.



Michael Barry '89

It was warm out, and I was either taking a study break or relaxing shortly thereafter. A number of friends were enjoying the afternoon, which was very typical of us in April and May. I heard about the cover from my sister-in-law, Kyra Tirana Barry '87, who at the time was my good friend. I thought, "that's fun, cover of *The New York Times Magazine*." Wish I had been facing the camera.

The experience did make me think that the Columbia of 1988 was quite different from 20 years prior. Columbia in the late 1980s was a relatively healthy place. The school, the city, the future all felt good to me.

Michael Behringer '89

I was walking across the Steps before my afternoon lecture. It was overcast and they were fairly barren except for Nancy Yaffa Le Roux BC'88, who was sitting on *Alma Mater* (you can see her to my right). I asked Nancy what she was doing up there. She had a belt that she had to return to a friend (you can see it in the photo) and wanted to be easily found. Chatting with Nancy seemed more interesting than class, so I hopped up to help her and made myself comfortable on that perch. That was probably the first and last time I ever sat up there.

Then the sun came out, and it turned into one of those unexpectedly glorious early spring days. As the temperature rose, a few friends, fraternity brothers and classmates who were also on their way to class asked what the hell we were doing up there. More than a few dropped their books and took a seat. It dominoed from there. Before long, the Steps were packed. I'd guess 90 percent of the people in that photo were supposed to be in class. There was this great energy.

My mother called me the Sunday it was published. She said, "Have you seen the cover of *The New York Times Magazine*? I think you're on it." My first reaction was dread, as to what I did that landed me on the cover. I found it at the newsstand on the corner of 110th and Broadway, and immediately recalled the day [it was taken].

I thought it was the greatest thing. It captured us enjoying the best of residential life at Columbia: being surrounded by friends, enjoying one another's company and just living in the moment. To give a sense of how meaningful that photo was for me, there are about seven friends in it who were at my wedding. And I'm still in touch with many of them.

To this day, my friends refer to it as "The Photo," and it quickly attained a special place in Columbia lore. My mother had it framed for me as a graduation gift, and it's held a prominent place in every office I've had. I glance at it nearly every day and it always brings a smile. My wife calls it my "Portrait of Dorian Gray." Each year it grows a little more faded and tattered, yet every glance leaves me feeling reenergized, optimistic and a little younger.

3

Stephanie Falcone Bernik '89

OMG — I'm sure I knew I was in the photo at the time but I'd long forgotten about it. My friend Diane Daltner '89 and I had started a video yearbook and we were constantly filming. Because much of the Columbia experience was centered on conversations on the Steps, there I was, with a HUGE video camera on my shoulder, dressed in the worst of '80s fashion ... Capezio shoes and joggers (which are unfortunately back in style). One could have only hoped that bad fashion wouldn't repeat itself. Seeing it now brings back so many great memories — it symbolizes the everyday "nothing" that played a part in making the time at Columbia so special.

4

Sandy Steinberg Harris BC'90, JRN'98

I associate my college experience with those unseasonably warm days when students would put on shorts and T-shirts and head to the Steps. It was so hopeful — spring was here! It was where Columbia most came together as a community. You never knew who you might see. Even today, on a day like that, I viscerally remember the Steps.

I remember when the magazine came out. I even saved a copy. I remember thinking it was cool to be in *The New York Times*. I vaguely remember feeling a sense of pride for being a student on the campus where there was an historic uprising, where students would go to such lengths to effect change. It was violent and scary, and it gave Columbia some street cred in the student revolt movement. When I was at Barnard in the late '80s, there was so much political passion and optimism about our ability to impact the world. I am sure it was related to being young, but at Columbia we were aware of the lore of the events of 1968. It felt like we had experience, a corner on the challenging-authority market. Depressing that 55 years later, we still find ourselves facing some of the same issues.

5

Michael Kanner '90

When the magazine came out, I had just moved back home for the summer after my sophomore year. My parents had home delivery of the *Times*. Spread out on the breakfast table that Sunday morning of May 15 was each section of the newspaper, with the cover of the magazine clearly visible. I immediately looked for people I knew. The first person I noticed was my friend Michael Behringer '89, who was sitting on the base of *Alma Mater*. I recognized some others, and then I saw what appeared to be half of my face, turning toward my left and about to throw a Nerf football. I think I still have those sunglasses.

I actually kept the magazine and still have it at my home. I enjoyed my years at Columbia immensely and have treasured my time there more and more as the years have gone by. I also am fortunate in that I was able to spend time on campus over the past four years — my daughter was a Columbia Engineering student. She just graduated in May.

Brian Kennedy ’90

I’ve seen this a few times over the years. I’m in what appears to be an unnecessary windbreaker :) Looks like there’s a copy of *Spectator* in my left hand. I loved those seemingly infrequent days when the weather and schedules aligned — great memories.

7

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

Nancy Yaffa Le Roux BC’88

I was meeting a friend that day but it was crowded and I couldn’t find them. I decided I would have a better view from *Alma Mater*. Michael Behringer ’89 (next to me) decided to come have a chat and help me look.

I was away at a rowing regatta when the magazine came out and came home to an answering machine (remember that dinosaur?) full of people telling me I was on the cover. I was so surprised. I had no idea the photo was even taken.

The cover is framed and has always been prominently featured in my home. It reminds me of four of my favorite years — the phenomenal education I received, the incredible rowing experience I had and the inspiring people I met, most of whom I’m fortunate to say are still close friends.

Holly Turchetta Li BC’90

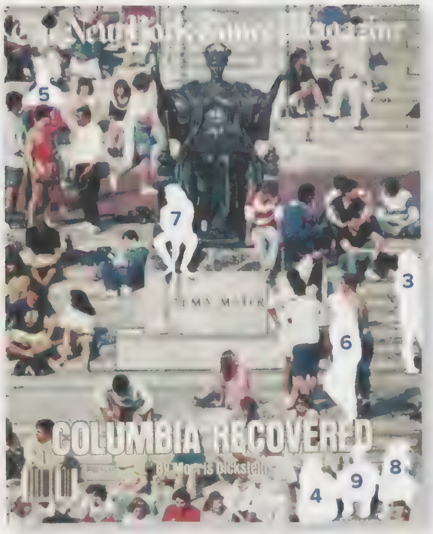
I didn’t even know I was in the photo — ha! Ironically, I was just in the city yesterday visiting colleges with my daughter and staying with my college roommate, Sandy Harris Steinberg BC’90, JRN’98, who’s at the bottom of the photo in the chambray shirt. She still has a copy of the magazine! And she is still one of my closest friends.

Any sunny spring day meant a gathering at the Steps. This day didn’t stand out in particular, though I do recall a lot of chatter in general around the anniversary of the 1968 protests. For our year, that was also significant because it was the year we, my classmates — all sophomores at the time — were born.

Andrew Levy ’88

I have a vague memory of being in Cannon’s bar at 108th and Broadway when this came out — obviously this was pre-internet, and if I recall correctly, the magazine hit newsstands either late Friday or Saturday night. Someone told me what it was and that I was on it. Needless to say, I rushed out to the corner, bought it and brought it back to the bar.

I don’t know if the photo has a particularly special meaning for me, but on the other hand, I’ve kept it ever since. I actually got it framed several years ago because it was getting pretty worn, so it’s definitely something that I wanted to preserve. It’s absolutely a fun memento of that time in my life, and it’s pretty cool to know that my time at Columbia is associated with a sort of rebirth of the school. I’m not claiming there’s a connection between the two things, but I’m also not *not* claiming it.



Jennifer Lebowitz London '90

I remember I got a call from a high school friend of mine. He said, "NO WAY — the cover caught my eye and I searched the photo and there you were! Unbelievable!" I immediately ran to the newsstand on Broadway and 116th and got a copy. What is funny is I have my own photos from the day in my scrapbook. Someone had pulled out their camera and taken snaps of the scene because the pervasive feeling was joy — and the light was great. (Keep in mind, they would have had to get the film developed and print multiple copies to share with friends, a little different from photo sharing today.) I had a slightly out-of-body feeling comparing those personal photos to the *Times* cover and considering that a *Times* photographer had been there all that time. I asked myself how the *Times* could have known that was the day to capture the magic of the Columbia Steps! It felt uncanny.

For me, the image celebrates something I absolutely loved about Columbia: the sense of a tight-knit community amidst a big university and an even bigger city. As college sophomores, we knew we had people. We had a place to meet without an invitation. We had a place to see and be seen. The Steps are the perfect space to socialize in a dynamic way.

Lynn E. Murphy '90

This was the spring of my sophomore year, and I believe I was going to French class. I think it was after lunchtime. I also spent a lot of time nearby at Dodge Fitness Center (I was on the women's soccer team), so the Steps were a natural stomping ground for me.

I completely recall when the magazine came out: I was home on Long Island for the summer. We got delivery of the paper, so I saw it on the table and went to the magazine. It used to have real estate in the back that I loved to look at. Well, I pulled it out and was like, "Wow! Cool, Columbia's on the cover." Then I looked more closely and saw myself — I was pretty stoked! I remember feeling a huge sense of pride looking at the cover and reading the article. In fact, I have two copies of the magazine at my home here in California!

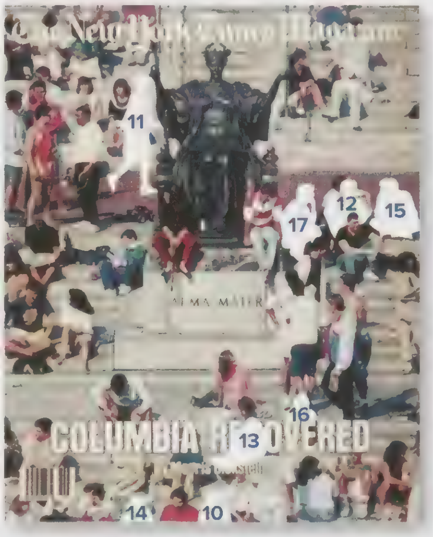
Patrick Murray '89

I remember when the magazine came out. I had stayed for a few days after the semester ended. I was in the Beta House and Steve Hasenfus '89 came home on Saturday evening and told us about it. I told my parents, and my father said, "I know you don't have the money to frame it properly, so I'll pay for you to do so." I had it put on a wood plaque and laminated, but the color has still faded. I'd love to get a new version, and maybe have it protected to last a little better.

The cover reminds me of a great time in life when I was able to spend hours in deep (and not so deep) conversation with really bright and engaging people. The picture perfectly captures one of those moments and reminds me how lucky I was to attend Columbia at that time. In addition, it was cool to be associated with a university that was improving and evolving into something better.

Rich Puttre '88

I am under the "ec" in "Recovered" actually doing a *New York Times* crossword puzzle. I always thought that was cool. My mom contacted the *Times* and purchased a different photo taken a split second before or after, and I was clearly visible in that one. I lost that photo in a move a few years ago.



14

Lauren Felton Roberts ’90

I have zero memory of that day; all of college is one big spectacular blur. I would guess that I was trying to catch some rays while doing my best to look cool and also avoiding going to the library.

The truth is that I have seen this iconic photo many times since we graduated, most recently circulated by friends on social media, and I had no recollection of being in it! I must have known in 1988 (it’s the kind of thing I would have gotten a huge kick out of) and then somehow mysteriously forgotten!

The photograph vividly captures life at Columbia in the late ’80s — the clothing, the hairstyles, the mood. Looking back on it now, it strikes me as very *Less Than Zero.* Definitely the greatest time of my life.

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

15

Patrick Ryan SEAS’89

I wasn’t expecting a nice, warm day and was wearing a heavy sweater. I crossed the Steps on my way to class, saw most of my friends hanging out and decided not to attend. The cover says “May 15, 1988” but my guess is the picture had been taken a month or two earlier.

The magazine came out just as I was returning home for the summer. I learned about it right away, as my parents were lifelong subscribers. It wasn’t entirely a positive for me, as I had been having some academic issues and my parents weren’t too excited about seeing a picture of me hanging out with my friends on the cover of the *Times* magazine. But it always did have special meaning for me since in the picture I am sitting and talking with some of my closest friends, and a number of members of my fraternity (Beta Theta Pi) are also in the shot. It also includes a few people I only peripherally knew (“there’s that guy I played cards with sophomore year!”) and might not have remembered otherwise. I’m sure I could still dig out a copy or two of the magazine.

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

16

Leigh Sansone BC’89

I cannot believe that picture was 35 years ago! My boyfriend woke me up, he was so excited — he had gone out for coffee and seen the *Times* somewhere. He kept shouting, “You’re on the cover of *The New York Times*!” I had no idea what he was talking about, but then he ran to a newsstand on Broadway and bought a copy to show me. It was exciting to be a part of University history even in a small and peripheral way, and I was, technically speaking, a “cover girl.” I went to Kinko’s straightaway and had it laminated. The picture is framed and hanging in my house even now.

That whole part of campus is loaded with history, and it was (and is, probably) also a part of most University students’ daily lives. The Steps and College Walk are both ordinary and extraordinary in that way. Plus being in that photo meant a lot to me personally. As a junior transfer student at Barnard and a southerner from Alabama, it took me some time to find my place in my class. When I saw this cover, I realized I knew almost all of the people. Quite a few were and are good friends. And it was just really cool having that moment memorialized.

PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE

17

George Suarez ’90

Knowing what my habits were, at the moment that photo was taken there was probably a classroom with an empty chair where my butt should have been.

My parents were devout *Times* readers, and my mother spotted me immediately. She called me at school and told me I was in the photo. My back was mostly to the camera but I recognized my shirt and glasses.

Around 2005 I was working at *Good Morning America* in New York. One of the executive producers had the cover hanging in his office. When I was introduced to him, the person ushering me into the office said, “This is George Suarez.” I pointed myself out in the photo and said, “This is also George Suarez.” The executive producer was a Columbia grad, and that led to a brief conversation about CU.

THE STORY BEHIND THE SHOT

TODD HEISLER / THE NEW YORK TIMES

Sara Krulwich,
photographer,
The New York Times

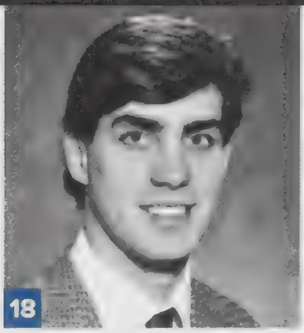
Kathy Ryan was the photo editor of the magazine — still is, actually — and she gave me the assignment. The idea was: springtime, there's a rebirth of Columbia University, it's doing so well ... I also had to shoot a lot of people who were [in the article]. But we needed something iconic for the cover. And Low Library — I didn't go to Columbia, so I didn't know what the statue was — but it was so obviously the symbol. It was freezing when I first went, though. Nobody was out.

I went to the building across the way [Butler Library] and every single window was locked; but there was one window that looked perfect. I had to get permission from, like, a million people to get somebody to open it. "Let me go out on a terrace and look to see ..." I had to figure out what lens to use and what would look good. So it was many different levels of security to even get a chance to check out the view. Who could give me the person who could give me permission, and who could give me the person who had the key — it was so bureaucratic.

Then I had to wait for warm weather.

I made friends — I had to go through somebody's office to get to that window, so I deputized the person whose office it was to tell me when it got crowded on the Steps. I needed somebody to say: It's a spring day and there are a ton of people. So then we had this beautiful day and I got the call, and I had to bring a tripod and a huge, long lens. And I had to sneak through the person's office and through that window, and I had to time it with the guy who had the keys.

[The terrace] was tiny — one of those pretend balconies that makes a building look pretty. I sat there for a long time, taking pictures. The reason that frame was chosen was because there's a little teeny motorized car in it. If you look at it, kind of in the middle, above the "a" in "Alma," somebody was running that car back and forth. Kathy thought that was fun and added an element.



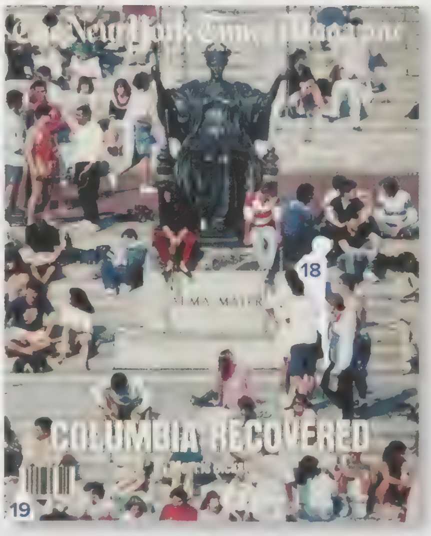
Dean Temple '90

My friends and I spent a lot of time on the Steps. It was no different from studying in Butler, which could be every bit as loud and social. If you had really serious work to do, something that demanded quiet focus, you could always go to the Law School library.

I saw the cover at University Food Market when I was getting coffee in the morning. I remember thinking, "Oh look, the Steps." And then, "Oh, hey there's [Michael] Behringer ['89] and [Brian] Kennedy ['90]!" And then thinking, "Oh shit, that's me." Pretty sure those are the exact words that went through my head.

Joanne Waage '90

Of course I remember! I mean, I was on the cover of *The New York Times Magazine.* Coming from Oregon, my home state, that's kind of a big deal. I also seem to recall teasing our friend who was hidden behind the barcode. Seeing it now reminds me of how vibrant and fun Columbia was!



BLAST FROM THE PAST

Student Short Fiction

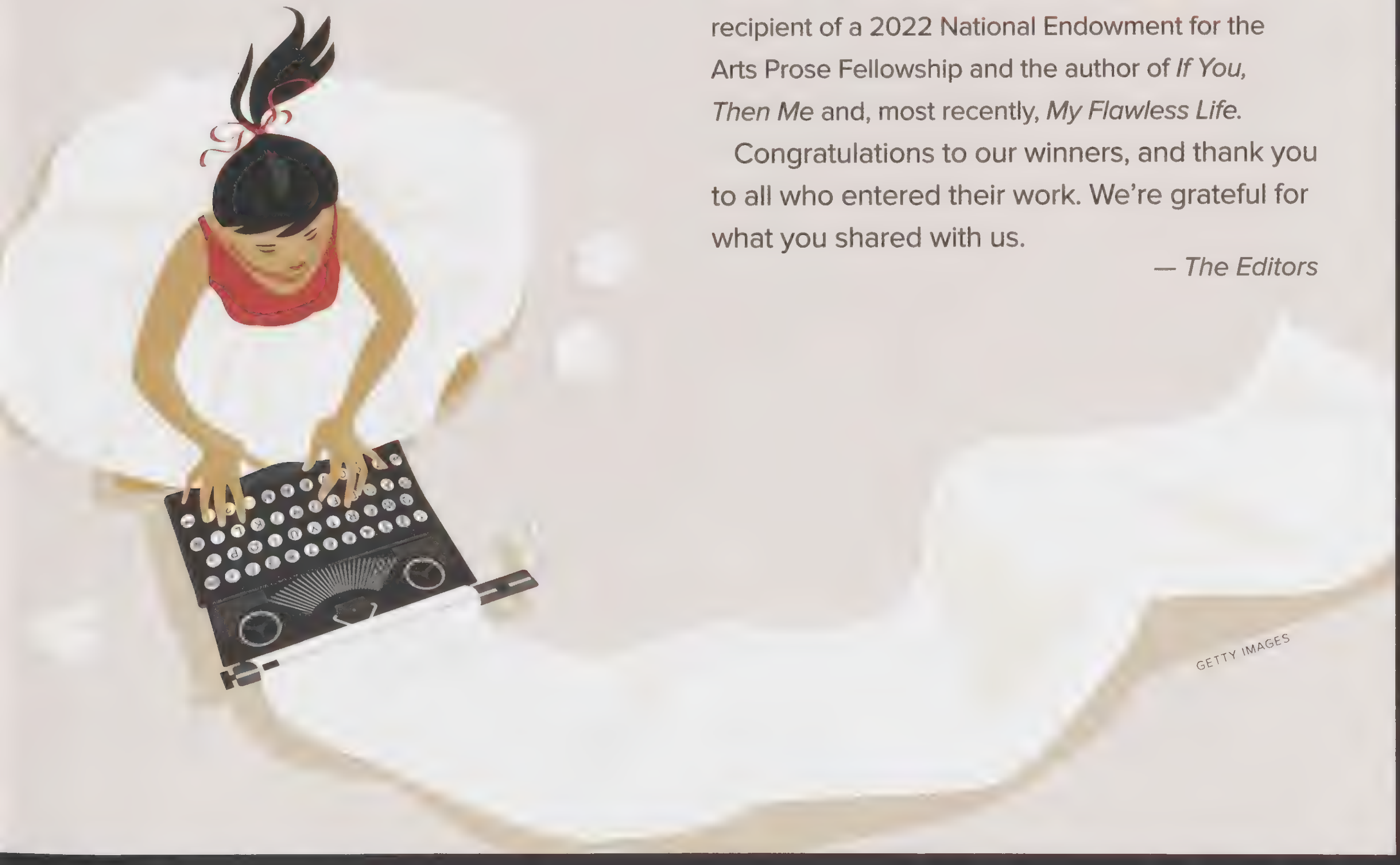
CCT's writing contest has become a biennial affair, and following our 2021 personal essay contest, we've brought back short fiction as the focus. Forty-four students submitted work this past winter, spanning an impressive range of genres. (We couldn't help but note the uptick in fantasy.) And while the prospect of weighing such disparate stories initially seemed difficult, we realized the most important criteria was universal: to deliver a complete reading experience — a distinctive and confident voice; characters that were vividly rendered; a plot that engaged us from start to finish.

Our winning entry, "Bone to Pick" by **Abby Sim '24,** did all that and more. The judges praised Sim's skill, along with her humor and attention to detail. They also selected an honorable mention, "Future Proofed" by **Charles Bonkowsky '24,** which can be found online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Speaking of our judges, we appreciate their efforts, as always. Even before the deliberations begin, their participation sends a message: that they believe in the College's writers and are interested in the stories they have to tell. This year's trio comprised **Danielle Evans '04,** the 2021 winner of The New Literary Project Joyce Carol Oates Prize and the author of *The Office of Historical Corrections* and *Before You Suffocate Your Own Fool Self;* **Adam Mansbach '98, SOA'00,** a novelist, screenwriter and humorist whose newest novel, *The Golem of Brooklyn,* is forthcoming in September; and **Yvonne Woon '06, SOA'10,** a recipient of a 2022 National Endowment for the Arts Prose Fellowship and the author of *If You, Then Me* and, most recently, *My Flawless Life.*

Congratulations to our winners, and thank you to all who entered their work. We're grateful for what you shared with us.

— The Editors



GETTY IMAGES

Bone to Pick

By Abby Sim '24

Twice already Connie had told the old couple with the yappy, sweatered terrier that, no, restaurant policy had not changed in the last five minutes so, yes, they really did need to take their dog outside even though it was mid-October and apparently far too chilly for Milo and his underactive thyroid. She forced her lips into the shape of a smile, aiming for sympathetic. Long silence. The woman shot her a dirty look with half a noodle hanging out of her mouth. Ugh.

Connie felt her smile slipping toward the frozen grimace of a taxidermied animal. Hold it, hold it. Hmm. Were these the kind of white people who taxidermied their pets after they died? Maybe that was Milo's destiny: eight more years of pampering and sweaters, followed by decades as, like, a furry little skinsuit with empty glass eyes gathering dust.

She repressed a shudder. Stay focused. Keep smiling … one more apologetic head bob, and … victory. Mr. Taxidermy made a show of dramatically standing up and yanking poor Milo out into the afternoon sun. Maybe luck was on her side today.

The lunch rush was slowing, but a few customers were still waiting to be seated. Three of Connie's empty tables were stacked with dirty plates. Where were the bussers when you needed them?

She swept up two armfuls of dishes to bring to the back of the house and eyed the vegan black bean spare ribs left unfinished on one of the plates. Greasy. Grayish. Seriously? That was the best they could do? She thought about her own lunch — leftover *pai gwat,* tender and a little spicy, the meat falling off the bone. Her dad's version, adapted from her *ngen ngen*'s recipe. Waiting to be resteamed in the microwave during her lunch break. Her stomach growled.

The bussers? she asked, handing the dishes to Carlos the dishwasher.

Smoking out back, he said dismissively, then leaned forward with a conspiratorial glint in his eye. But you know what? I heard Arielle's dropping by tonight.

Arielle's always dropping by, she said.

He snorted. I mean for downsizing. You know her. All about profit. She's gonna see who's not pulling their weight.

Hmm, she thought. The Big Lady on the lookout. A funny nickname because Arielle was one of those pretty, thin white women who went viral on Instagram for wearing yoga pants, drinking smoothies and having legs that looked like chopsticks.

You're welcome, huh? Keep it on the down-low, eh? Carlos called after her as she forced her way out of the chaotic hustle of the kitchen.

Downsizing didn't worry Connie. The Big Lady liked having her around. During the interview six months ago, she had told Connie, I can see you fitting in perfectly here. Her eyes had slid from Connie's face to the tasteful Oriental wallpaper behind her to the less tasteful prancing dragon statue in the corner and back again. The Big Lady had smiled somewhere to the left of Connie's eyes, and Connie had known exactly why she was hired. A little authenticity. You know, to bring the charade to life. Even though Connie had never been great at acting. Even though her little sister had stopped by last month to check out the restaurant and laughed herself hoarse at Connie's customer service face. Get your eyes checked, Allison had said. They're shooting laser beams. But none of the customers ever seemed to notice. Money was money, and tips were better here with prices triple whatever they were charging downtown.

She spotted a family of five sitting down at one of her tables.

Hi, welcome to Good Fortune. My name's Connie, and I'll be your server today. What can I get you started with? Anything to drink?

We're all on a gluten- and dairy-free diet, and I'm keto, the woman said. Your menu can accommodate us?

Nice to meet you, too.

Oh, yes, Connie said. Our entire menu is gluten-free, dairy-free, wheat-free, corn-free and peanut-, cashew- and pistachio-free. And we have plenty of options for vegans and vegetarians, too. We're very accommodating. That's Good Fortune. Clean Chinese.

Clean? the woman said, perking up.

Oh, yes, Connie said. Super clean and healthy. No MSG or refined sugar either. Our owner's a health and lifestyle expert.

Authentic, too? the woman said. Sounds too good to be true.

Haha, Connie said. Let me get you some water.

Allison was wrong. The laser beams did not come from Connie's eyes. They came from somewhere deep inside her chest, where she could feel all her unspoken words hissing and sizzling like garlic frying in a wok. Which was, funny

Illustrations by Jianan Liu

enough, a sound she never actually heard in the kitchens at Good Fortune. Authentic? What was she supposed to say? Yes: The owner spent three months in the Far East learning from, like, a wise Shaolin monk how to make the very best gluten-free lo mein and baked orange cauliflower?

But really, it was fine. She knew better than to get worked up. So maybe it was a little messed up that the Big Lady was making money off calling her bland, effed-up food cleaner, healthier, better than the real thing. But at least Connie was making money off it, too. Right? Didn't everything balance out in the end? If the Big Lady was taking advantage, Connie was taking advantage right back.

She distributed water and took orders from the Everything-Free Family. One paleo Mongolian beef, one sweet and sour tempeh, two orders of kung pao jackfruit and one grass-fed General Tso's chicken. Grass-fed General Tso's chicken or General Tso's grass-fed chicken? The Big Lady would probably like the idea of a grass-fed General Tso. So stupid. A grass-fed General Tso would have kicked the bucket in his first battle, back when he was just a little Private Tso. Way before anyone thought of naming a chicken dish after him.

And besides, wasn't this what her grandparents wanted when they immigrated in the first place? Wasn't this enough? Connie, able to make rent and afford decent groceries, able to write in her free time, able to support herself while still following her dreams? Survival by any means necessary. Didn't *po po* work 12-hour shifts at the factory when she first came to the U.S.? Didn't *gung gung* wait tables, too? What difference did it make if Connie was working on Madison instead of Mott? She was doing what she needed to do.

The table of three sitting by the tacky dragon statue signaled for refills.

Yeah, I just discovered this new dish, and look, it's here on the menu, one guy was saying to his buddy. You neeeed to try it. Ma-poo tofu.

She squinted hard. Focused on topping off their glasses without giving Christopher Columbus the side eye, sitting over there in his khakis and boat shoes surveying a whole new continent of undiscovered cuisine.

In any case, the mapo tofu here was nothing to write home about. Watery and colorless. Smelled more like soy sauce and red chili flakes than the savory, fermented *tobandjan* it was supposed to smell like. Mapo tofu was one of the first dishes she and Allison had managed to make for their parents back when they were 13 and 10, trying to find their way around the kitchen by themselves. Poor Columbus. He had no idea he was late to the party.

Katya the hostess was directing two women to an empty table in Connie's section.

From across the restaurant, she caught a glimpse of one of the women. A sharp little nose, pointy eyebrows and a thin, flat mouth — wait. Was that? That was — shit. The floor seemed to tilt sideways. Her heartbeat in her throat, the rest of the restaurant buzzing black and tunneling inward. All she could see was that face. Unmistakable, even after all these years.

She was standing frozen, she realized suddenly. Another server was trying to get around her. She needed to keep moving. One foot in front of the other. She jolted to a stop in front of their table. Cleared her throat. No way she would actually remember, right? Christ. Get over yourself.

Hi, she said, welcome to Good Fortune —

The woman blinked up at her. Faint recognition sparked in her eyes.

Annie? she said, brightly. Long, expectant pause. Taylor Cunningham, remember? You're from Benton. Jersey, right? We went to Our Lady of Peace together for middle school?

Uh, Connie said. Actually, it's Connie. But yeah, Our Lady of Peace.

Right, right! Sorry. Connnieeee, Taylor said. I knew I recognized you! That's so funny!

Was that all Taylor Cunningham remembered? Connie wondered what her 9-year-old face looked like in Taylor's memory. Tired? Mad? Expressionless? How exactly had she reacted in fourth grade every time Taylor compared her father's homemade *yuk beng* to dog food — or was it dog meat? Connie had forgotten the actual insults, but not the burning feeling in her chest. No, that had stayed with her, a searing, red-hot, decade-long shame. Taylor's face had stayed with her, too. The scrunched nose, the exaggerated gagging, the tongue limply dangling from her mouth like a piece of meat from a pair of chopsticks.

Connie would push the food around on her plate until the period was over and she could put everything back into her lunchbox. Appetite gone, but too proud to dump the food her father had cooked, not with her classmates watching. Too proud to bring PB&Js instead. She had snuck her lunches back home, where she could bury her food in the kitchen garbage in peace.

But even at home, she wasn't hungry. Not for all of fourth grade. Her family ate dinner together every night. Sat around a table filled with huge platters of rice, fish, pork, bok choy. She would fidget, picking at her food. Watching her parents eat with their faces down to the table, heads bowed. Listening to the sounds they made. Like a pack of starving beasts. Their loud slurps of relish, the meaty sounds of their chewing. Wondered what Taylor would say if she saw how they ate.

Not hungry. Never hungry. She had known, even then, that the act of refilling her dish was one of the few ways her father could show her his love. His tongs hovered over her plate, offering, offering. More meat, more vegetables? But her plate was always full. Her stomach, too. The weight of other people's disgust, like a boulder in her belly. Stinky — nasty — rat shit. No room for anything else.

Staring into Taylor's guileless blue eyes, Connie knew she remembered none of it. Was she smiling in Taylor's memory? Was Connie sitting in the cafeteria with the same blank, resigned smile that got her hired by the Big Lady — was that where she learned it first?

Wow, what a coincidence, Connie said. So crazy bumping into you. Can I get you anything to drink?

Oh, water would be great, Taylor said. How long have you worked here?

Six months, Connie said.

I can't believe I've never seen you, Taylor said. She turned to her friend. I just loooove this place. Everything's so good, but you don't feel all bloated and icky afterward, like how you feel after takeout. You like working here, Connie?

Love it, she said.

Yeah, Good Fortune's one of my favorite lunch spots, Taylor said. I'm on a health kick — vegan for the last three months. And this place has so many options.

Get through the shift, Connie thought. Just get through it, then ask to switch all your weekday lunch shifts for the dinner rush.

Are you guys ready to order, or do you need more time? Connie said.

I'll have the spare ribs, Taylor said. Marcie, you should definitely get the kung pao jackfruit. I swear, best stir fry you'll ever have. Oh, and Connie, the spare ribs are vegan, right? I haven't eaten animal byproducts in months now, my stomach probably can't even handle meat or dairy anymore! Haha.

They're literally called the vegan black bean spare ribs on the menu, Connie thought.

You're good, she said. I'll get your orders in.

A decade, she reminded herself, was a long time. Plenty of time to grow up, mature. Learn the value of different cultures and the importance of respecting —

And so much nicer than those dirty hole-in-the-wall spots downtown, Taylor was saying to her friend. Like, who cares if the food's cheaper down there? You could not PAY me to eat something that's been, like, infested with roaches and rats.

Infested? Connie ran the word over her tongue as she made her way back to the kitchen. Spotted the Big Lady chatting up Mr. and Mrs. Taxidermy with a gleaming smile, the famed restaurateur making her rounds. Infested. She picked up and handed out entrees to the Everything-Free Family. Anything else to drink? Cleared more tables while the bussers were apparently still outside smoking. Infested.

She looked at her watch. Nearly two o'clock and she hadn't taken her lunch break. She fumbled through the staff fridge. Found her Tupperware and microwaved her spare ribs, the ones her father taught her how to cook. A shame she wasn't hungry. A shame her stomach was one tightly clenched fist, a scorching mass right below her heart.

Table four, the line cook called. Order up.

Table four. Taylor and Co. Just get through the shift. Connie picked up the dishes. Stared at the saddest excuse for *pai gwat* she had ever seen. Swimming in gray sauce. Forced her feet to move, her face to smile. Delivered the food to the table. Enjoy.

What did I tell you? Taylor was saying. It's good, right? And it tastes even better because you know it's clean. Can't even tell it's meatless, right?

A five-minute silence. Chewing like cows.

Connie stood, watching. Invisible, 10 feet from their table. Holding her bag and her empty Tupperware. Her stomach, like cement, like 400 lunches and dinners packed into one kitchen trash can, weighing her down. Three … two … one …

What is this? Taylor was saying, startled. Her voice, climbing rapidly in pitch, wavering like a police siren, morphing into a wail. Oh my god, what the hell am I eeeaating?!

Flecks of spittle and half-masticated, stringy clumps flew from her lips. She was spitting food everywhere. Didn't even bother to cover her mouth with a napkin.

The Big Lady materialized at Connie's elbow, summoned by the chaos.

Katie, she said urgently, is everything OK?

Oh, yes, Connie said. Everything's great, Arielle. I think I'm quitting.

She turned and pushed her way toward the door. Past the Everything-Free Family, past Columbus, past Mr. and Mrs. Taxidermy, who were whispering furiously among themselves. The Big Lady was sputtering.

Is this? Is this?! Is this a bone??!! Taylor was shrieking from somewhere behind her.

Connie stepped out onto the sidewalk. The terrier from the restaurant looked up at her and yipped. Cocked its head, curious. She knelt to scratch behind its ears.

What do you think, boy? she said. Anything's better than being stuffed and mounted, right?

The sun shone overhead like a hungry, open mouth. Fit to devour the world.

Abby Sim '24, *a double major in English and political science-statistics, is from New Jersey. She wrote this story for one of her favorite English courses, "Introduction to Asian American Literature and Culture," taught by Professor Denise Cruz. In her free time, Sim likes baking, playing volleyball and exploring the city.*

DIGGING INTO DATA

TWO PROFESSORS DETAIL HOW WE CAME TO LIVE IN A WORLD DRIVEN BY ALGORITHMS

Jones (left) and Wiggins in Jones' Fayerweather office. The professors have been teaching "Data: Past, Present and Future" since 2017.

BY JILL C. SHOMER

On a bright, chilly Tuesday in January, just after the start of the Spring semester, 100 or so College and Engineering students filed into a Schermerhorn lecture hall for their second week of "Data: Past, Present and Future," taught by Professors Chris Wiggins '93 and Matthew L. Jones. The two-part class has exploded in popularity since being introduced in 2017, fueled by the need for fluency in a culture increasingly saturated and shaped by data. Wiggins was speaking from the podium that day; Jones would take center stage on Thursday to lead a hands-on coding lab.

Sitting among the undergrads in a middle row, taking in what Wiggins was saying about the assumed superiority of numerical data, I quietly had my mind blown. I had always believed that math was sacrosanct, that quantitative information was king, that numbers equaled facts. But that morning, Wiggins, an associate professor of applied mathematics and systems biology and the chief data scientist at *The New York Times,* informed us that that notion was simply not correct.

"Data comes with truthiness that is unwarranted," he said. "With data comes power, including the power to shape what is perceived to be true."

In fact, Wiggins and Jones, the James R. Barker Professor of Contemporary Civilization, discuss truth and power all semester. The class aims to get students thinking critically about how mathematical analysis came to be the dominant way to understand — and control — the world; to investigate how data-empowered algorithms have come to shape our personal, professional and political lives; and to consider the ethical stakes of a data-mediated reality.

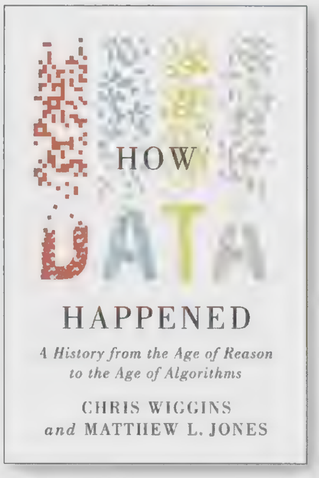
Later that week, during the first computer lab exercise, Jones demonstrated the shadiness of numerical objectivity. He had the class look at

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
JORG MEYER

data sets — lists of numbers or values that relate to a particular subject; in this case, the examples ranged from wine tasting to pharmaceutical use. Then they used coding tools to take the rows and columns apart and determine where the info came from. “The students see that numbers are artifacts of choices that people make,” Jones says. “Which doesn’t mean that they’re useless, or throw us into complete skepticism. But it’s where we begin building.”

Teaching students to think critically about data situates “Data: Past, Present and Future” in the timely intersection of science and the humanities — the techy and the fuzzy, to use an analogy Wiggins likes. And as a data scientist and a historian of science and technology, Wiggins and Jones offer fascinatingly complementary perspectives. The professors recently expanded on their course in the book *How Data Happened: A History from the Age of Reason to the Age of Algorithms,* released in March.

“Our goal is to provide a framework for understanding the persistent role of data in rearranging power,” Wiggins and Jones write in their introduction. “We hope to show how we collectively got here ... this will, in turn, help us picture how we can break and reset the bones of systems that sometimes empower the defenseless — yet have more often strengthened the empowered.”



Though the title might suggest a heavy math dive, *How Data Happened* is actually a lot about people. From Belgian astronomer Adolphe Quetelet to statistics pioneer Florence Nightingale (yes, *that* Florence Nightingale!) to the O.G. of algorithms, Alan Turing, Wiggins and Jones engagingly describe not only how data happened, but why and by whom.

“Scientists are human beings, and science is built of very human stories — it’s just we don’t usually foreground that because we think about ‘science’ as objectivity and ideas and technique,” Wiggins says. “We don’t think about the people, and what their interests are in creating and arguing for those techniques.

“The point of the book — and what motivated the class — is that I really do believe it should be known that data is created by real people,” Wiggins continues. “It’s the recurring theme of subjective design choices and the way we make decisions about something that we then present as being objective.”

THE PROFESSORS MET IN 2013, after Wiggins attended Jones’ lecture on the history of machine learning (“His talk had a lot about the government mining of personal data — and then the Snowden revelations happened,” Wiggins recalls. “I said to him, ‘Oh my god, you skated toward exactly where the puck was going to go!’”); they collaborated for the first time a year later, when they were invited by the Journalism School to craft a class for data journalists.

“It was a great experience,” Jones says. “It really contributed to our sense of the way in which you can teach people a set of tools, and at the same time, teach them the limitations of it.”

Wiggins and Jones launched “Data: Past, Present and Future” in January 2017, with support from the Collaboratory at Columbia, a joint initiative of the Columbia Data Science Institute and Columbia Entrepreneurship that aims to promote digital literacy by integrating data and computer science into other areas of study.

This was right after the contentious 2016 election; the course kicked off as President Trump was inaugurated, a time when narratives around data, information and reality were shifting significantly (remember, this was the first time we heard the term “fake news”). The course started as a small seminar, but blew up quickly in size and content at the same time Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg was being called to discuss data privacy before the Senate. “It became clear that the students did not just want a history of data science,” Wiggins says. “They really wanted to understand the relationship between data and truth, and data and power.”

The professors say they consistently update their course material in order to stay current and challenge their two constituencies: students with a mathematical or computational background and those who major in the humanities. The duality of lecture and lab provides discussion one day (students read articles by computer scientists, social scientists and even some sections of *How Data Happened*) and hands-on learning with modern tools the next. Assignments are split on two tracks to get people outside their comfort zones: The techies get longer, more humanistic papers to write; the fuzzies do more technical problem sets. There’s also an unusually upbeat class Slack channel, with conversation flowing among the professors, students and alumni of the course (who are welcome to stick around) — some even opt to stay connected as coding homework graders.

The students were lively and engaged on the days I attended, and the rapport between Wiggins and Jones was palpable. Conversely, Wiggins, the scientist, gives the lecture, while Jones, the historian, teaches the coding. (Their professorial styles also differ notably: Wiggins is compelling and droll but stationary, while Jones is more animated, pacing and gesturing, dropping TikToks into his lab presentation. It was apparent the students enjoy them both.)

Though not limited to College students, “Data: Past, Present and Future” has deep connections to the Core Curriculum. The class satisfies a Core science requirement; Jones was chair of Contemporary Civilization from 2009 to 2012 and still teaches CC; and Wiggins is an alumnus who completed the curriculum. “I see a lot of continuity to CC and Lit Hum and other

The professors consistently update their course material in order to stay current and challenge their techy and fuzzy constituencies.

components of the Core in the way that we teach this class," Jones says. "For me, it's a particular privilege, because it allows you to think of the history of science as something that is deeply engaged with questions of knowledgeable citizenry."

Wiggins doubles down on the subject of critical thinking. "I didn't realize when we started teaching the class how much there is to know about how we know what we know," he says. "What even is *science*? How do we collectively construct a consensus on what is true?"

> "I DIDN'T REALIZE WHEN WE STARTED TEACHING THE CLASS HOW MUCH THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT HOW WE KNOW WHAT WE KNOW," WIGGINS SAYS. "HOW DO WE COLLECTIVELY CONSTRUCT A CONSENSUS ON WHAT IS TRUE?"

THE WARM DYNAMIC Wiggins and Jones have in the classroom comes through in their writing, but when asked how *How Data Happened* happened, both authors are modest. They knew once they began the class that they had a good story to tell — for example, Jones says that the development of statistics up to WWII is well known among historians but less so outside those circles. "And the students were really gaining a lot from it," he says.

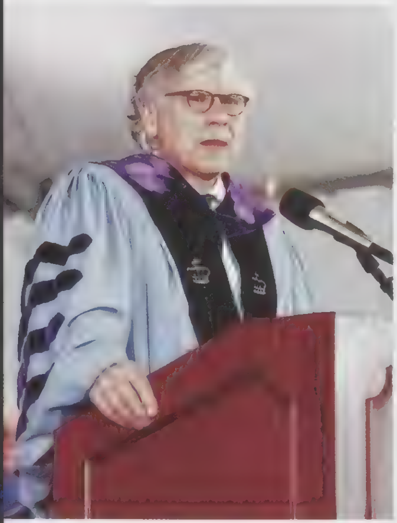
Jones, however, says he had no idea how to write a non-academic book; Wiggins claims he didn't know how to write a book, period. Jones' colleague, historian and author Adam Tooze, suggested they take their inspiration from the genre of a great undergraduate lecture. "The right scholarly depth with expositional clarity," Jones recalls. "And so the way we were teaching the lecture component of the class became the framework for most of the chapters."

How Data Happened is laid out in three parts: the history of data, its evolution and finally, how we might bend data's current trajectory to better ends. Wiggins and Jones had a lot to work with, in terms of the academic literature they had already assigned to their students. The later chapters include their own scholarly work; they discuss how data and power moved from a state concern to a corporate one, and close the book with a reminder that just because we can use algorithmic decision-making systems doesn't mean we must ("ads based on mass surveillance are not necessary elements of our society"). Societal change may be slow, they say. But it's possible.

"There are alternatives ... it can be done," the book's final pages read. "Many potential forces, large and small, are available to us, directly and indirectly, to shape the relationships among technology and norms, laws and markets, and data's role in it all."

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CELEBRATES A "REMARKABLE AND RESILIENT" CLASS

The Class Day ceremony included moving speeches by Dean Josef Sorett and Katori Hall '03



THE FORTITUDE AND FORMIDABLE achievements of the Class of 2023 headlined May 16's Class Day, as 1,259 College seniors joined the ranks of alumni. Speakers throughout the morning celebrated the students' resilience in the face of the pandemic, recognized their contributions to reinvigorating campus life and exhorted them to continue roaring like the Lions they are.

The annual ceremony took place under a blue sky, with the familiar strains of "Pomp and Circumstance" accompanying the seniors as they marched to their seats. Among the featured speakers were Dean Josef Sorett, presiding over his first Class Day; keynote speaker Katori Hall '03, the Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright of *The Hot Wing King* and *The Mountaintop;* and President Lee C. Bollinger, who is stepping down on June 30 after 21 years in the role.

Wadzanayi Michelle Mayiseni '23, the class' student speaker, took the stage early to enthusiastic cheers. Selected from more than 25 essayists, she delivered a moving speech that connected her experience — both as an international student who stayed on campus through the pandemic, and as a bone cancer survivor — to a larger message about not letting fear of the unknown hold you back. Reminding classmates of their first-year selves, she said, "We allowed ourselves to be newcomers, beginners who dared trust they would make it to the finish line. … And now we have made it to this beautiful end!"

Senior class president Nicolas Turrill '23 emphasized the lessons in perseverance taught by the Covid-19 crisis: "Our class is different in too many ways to count, perhaps even unrecognizable, from the class that was welcomed to this community at Convocation in the fall of 2019, but we persisted," Turrill said. "The change we have faced together — throughout our time inside and out of the classroom — unites us."

In his remarks, Sorett hailed the "resilient and remarkable Class of 2023." He celebrated their ability to adapt and meet the challenges of the pandemic, and credited them for reenergizing campus life, "infusing it with the vitality, spontaneity and camaraderie it had sorely missed."

Looking ahead, Sorett also spoke about the relationships between ethics and aesthetics, "our shared responsibility to make the world better and to make beauty in and of it."

"As current and future leaders," he said, "you will have the chance — and the responsibility — to uphold the values you cherish and to add value to the communities you join and create. You will no doubt do well for yourself. You are Lions, after all. Yet I exhort you to also do good, as complicated and naive as these two simple words might be."

“MAY YOU STEP INTO YOUR FUTURE WITH PRIDE TOMORROW AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW.”

— CLASS DAY SPEAKER
KATORI HALL ’03

Of beauty, he implored, they should take an expansive view: “There is a kind of ordinary activism to be found in apprehending and amplifying the beauty around you. Seeking it, discerning it and striving to name it will enrich your lives and the lives of those within, but also beyond, your reach. And beauty is the great hope for our shared present and futures.”

With ardor and honesty, and sharing stories drawn from her own experience, Hall delivered a master class on the importance of finding your voice and representing yourself; of digging in to do the work when opportunity arises; and of learning to view failure as a “blessing cloaked in a lesson.”

She concluded by summoning the “world of no” that the graduates are entering into: “You are walking into a world that throws its hands up at climate change, at gun control … where lies are being peddled as facts, dismantling the very bedrock of logic your education is based upon.”

Against that background, she urged: “You cannot be replaced. Your unique experiences, your mistakes, your dreams, your solutions are what we need in this world oh so badly today. We need you to stand in your authenticity, stare failure in the face with no fear, because you all have withstood a darkness that nobody has ever gone through before.

“You, Class of 2023, are truly the resilient ones. May your wounds give you wisdom, and may your failures give you grit. May your faith withstand the test of time and may you step into your future with pride tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow. Demand today that this ‘world of no’ welcome you into your tomorrow of helll yes.”

UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

The celebrations continued on May 17, when graduates from all University schools came together for Commencement, the ceremony in which degrees are officially conferred by the University president.

Hall again had a seat on the dais, as she received the University Medal for Excellence. The recipients of honorary degrees included Jonathan S. Lavine ’88, Board of Trustees chair, and Minouche Shafik, who begins as the 20th president of the University on July 1. Two of the 10 Alumni Medals — given for distinguished service to the University of 10 years or more — went to College alumni: Carlos V. Cruz ’88 and Richard E. Witten ’75. A third Alumni Medal went to Diane McKoy TC’02, who recently retired as senior associate director of Undergraduate Admissions after 42 years of service.

Frank Guridy, executive director of the Eric H. Holder Jr. Initiative for Civil and Political Rights, received a Faculty Service Award, recognizing full-time faculty whose extraordinary and creative voluntary service has contributed significantly to the University’s diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. Guridy is also the Dr. Kenneth and Kareitha Forde Professor of African American and African Diaspora Studies.

Photographs by
Eileen Barroso

WE ARE CC'23!

Our newest alumni celebrated Commencement under brilliant blue skies on May 17. We asked a few of them what life lessons they are taking away from their time at the College.

Bhoomika Kumar

MAJOR: Biology

FUTURE PLANS: "I'll be working on my carbon capture startup!"

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "Working with people of different backgrounds brings in really cool perspectives for solving problems. It allows you to think of creative solutions for the biggest challenges the world is facing."

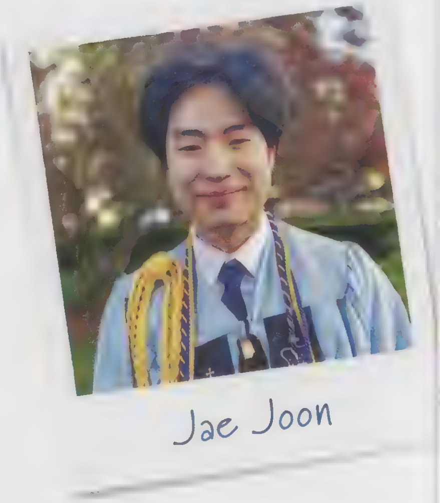
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JILL SHOMER

Jae Joon Lee

MAJOR: History and Economics

FUTURE PLANS: "I'll be working at RAIN Group."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "All work is meaningless unless you do it with others. Your most important memories will be of the time you spent with other people."



Adar Tulloch

MAJOR: Computer Science

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm doing software engineering at Walmart Labs in Arkansas."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "As a transfer student, for me it's about being open to trying new things. I was apprehensive about the courses and meeting new people, but once I immersed myself in the community I felt so at ease. Being open to new things and new experiences is a life lesson that will stick with me."

Aryana Swanson

MAJOR: Political Science

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm going to law school at Northwestern."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "You should pursue what you are passionate about rather than what you *think* you should do. During my time at Columbia I had the most fun taking the classes I was passionate about, even if they weren't directly geared toward my career."

Fidel Martinez

MAJOR: Neuroscience and Behavior

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm going to medical school in either Pennsylvania or Virginia."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "Your time at Columbia is the perfect opportunity to grow and explore. Living in New York City, you can find where your people are and you can connect with your interests."

Aaron Baez

MAJOR: Financial Economics with a concentration in Business Management

FUTURE PLANS: "I'll be in banking at J.P. Morgan."

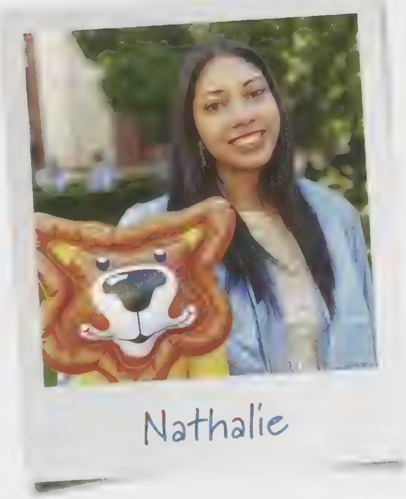
THE CC TAKEAWAY: "The greatest learning experience that an institution like this can provide is diversity of thought, and I think Columbia does a good job giving students the opportunity to encounter a variety of world perspectives."

Nathalie Rodriguez

MAJOR: Sociology and Business Management

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm working at Goldman Sachs."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "As a born-and-raised New Yorker, my biggest takeaway is that to be transformed you don't need to go to exotic locales or even change your neighborhood; the people you are with can transform you anywhere you are."



Marie-Josée "Josie" Bourelly

MAJOR: Anthropology

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm going to travel in East Asia with friends, then work as an actor at a theater in Ithaca."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "At Class Day, speaker Katori Hall '03 said, 'You have to nourish your tree, even if it's with your own spit,' which was so great. You need to make sure that you are your biggest champion, that you're always advocating for yourself and that you allow your curiosity for life and your passions to take the lead."

Elia Longyu Zhang

MAJOR: History and Philosophy

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm doing a two-year art history fellowship at Williams College."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "Always be open to the unexpected! People, opportunities, perspectives, activities — they can all open your world and shape how you view your life."

Adam Alvarado

MAJOR: Sociology with a concentration in Public Health

FUTURE PLANS: "I'm staying in New York City to explore my interests."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "It's OK to not be certain about things! There is so much to explore; things will work out in the end and you'll have great experiences along the way."

Wanting Women to Win

Journalist Christine Yu '99 calls foul on gender bias in sports science

When we talk about gender equality in sports, the conversation tends to focus on opportunity or compensation. In the last 50 years there have been significant strides to level the playing field — the passage of Title IX in 1972 made room for women to compete; last year, the U.S. Women's National soccer team successfully argued for equal pay and benefits.

And yet, gender inequity still runs deep in the fields of biomedicine and exercise science, says **Christine Yu '99** in her new book, *Up to Speed: The Groundbreaking Science of Women Athletes* (Riverhead Books, $29). Even as they have excelled in sports, there's an underlying resistance to understanding women's unique physicality, Yu argues. Despite a dramatic rise in the number of women participating in athletics — 3.4 million girls in the United States compete on high school teams; at the collegiate level, it's a 600 percent increase from the early 1970s — Yu says that male athletes are privy to vastly more information about their bodies, and the lack of comparable scientific research has had an impact on women's roles in sports training, performance, rate of injury and long-term health.

SYLVIE ROSOKOFF

"Men's voices continue to dominate research agendas, funding priorities and resources," she writes. "Male anatomy, physiology and biology inform standards for athletic development and progression, guidelines for training and nutrition, and blueprints for shoe, clothing and gear design."

In *Up to Speed,* Yu explains how gender bias came to be baked into biomedical research and dives into specifics about menstrual cycles, endurance, breast health and gear (the strategy of making men's apparel smaller and adding a frill or feminine color is known as "shrink it and pink it"). She also looks at the challenges women athletes face during adolescence, pregnancy and postpartum, and menopause.

Yu's interest stems from her experiences as a lifelong athlete — skiing, surfing and running top the list — and health journalist. After transferring to the College from Stanford, Yu planned to follow in the footsteps of her late father, who had been a neurosurgeon. But that didn't stop her from majoring in art history. "I felt like having the ability to think in a way that was different from science would be important to me as a doctor," she says. "And to be in New York and able to visit the artwork we were studying was honestly my favorite thing to do."

Yu never made it to medical school, but her interest in health care remained. She took a year off to volunteer in a public health program in South America, then worked as a consultant with Ernst & Young before going to the Harvard Kennedy School for a master's in public policy. She started blogging after she started a family "because I really missed connecting with people through stories and words," she says. She began freelancing for outlets like *Women's Health, Runner's World* and espnW, and her journalism career took shape.

An aha moment at a 2014 fitness summit led Yu to write her first book. As an athlete, Yu heard of friends who would sometimes lose their periods and assumed that was normal; at the summit, guest speaker Dr.

Jennifer Ashton '91, VPS'00, HN'16 said that was not normal at all. Absent or irregular menstrual cycles can have repercussions for athletic performance, and more importantly, long-term health, especially bone health.

"My mind was blown," Yu says. "Like, how do we not know this?! The way we think about sports and health is so siloed, and there are all these issues that women are just not educated about. It was a real lightbulb moment for me.

"I think that many of us have had times in which we aren't heard by doctors, or our experiences are brushed aside," she continues. "Blind spots in science and medicine and sports exist because these systems weren't created to accommodate women."

In *Up to Speed*'s introduction, excerpted here, Yu becomes frustrated by her doctor's clueless response after she is waylaid by a torn ACL. "I was embarrassed and ashamed that I was injured … and I couldn't stop thinking there was something wrong with my body," she writes. "That it was written somewhere in my DNA that I wasn't cut out for certain activities and sports."

Looking ahead, Yu is hopeful that the gender gap can improve, buoyed by the number of physicians and scientists who came of age during Title IX and are pushing for more research, as well as a new generation of girls and college athletes who are standing up for themselves and demanding better treatment.

"Some of the young girls I've talked to are so poised and so incredible — I get goosebumps just thinking about it!" Yu says with a laugh. "They are advocating for change in a way that is really tremendous."

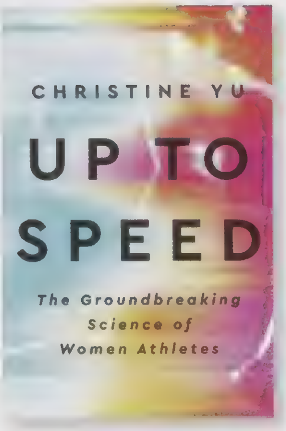
— *Jill C. Shomer*

Introduction: **Mind the Gap**

I thought I knew a fair amount about the human body, exercise and fitness. I come from a family of doctors — my dad, my sister, and countless cousins all practice medicine — and I was destined for the same path after college. I believed in science. I trusted it. I did everything by the book to rehabilitate my knee the first time around. I diligently went to physical therapy, did all my prescribed exercises (no matter how painful or boring), and rebuilt my strength. Leading into this half-marathon training cycle, I regularly lifted weights and gradually increased my running mileage. Yet following the rules didn't seem to matter. Even my orthopedic surgeon had no answers. I remember him saying, "Christine, I don't know what to do about you." Two months later, I had surgery to replace my ACL again.

I'm not the only one whose body has had a fraught relationship with sports and exercise. As a journalist, I've noticed that even as women have excelled in sports, there's an underlying sense that women and their bodies are an anomaly in the athletic world. Women athletes are often led to believe that menstrual dysfunction is normal, stress fractures are a rite of passage, knee injuries are inevitable, disordered eating and body image issues are part and parcel of the athletic experience, and athletic careers are limited by puberty, pregnancy and age. When something goes wrong — injury, burnout, overtraining — women are blamed and shamed for it, despite doing everything they're "supposed" to do. But I couldn't figure out why the feeling was so pervasive and intractable. Why weren't we taking better care of girls and women? Did it have to be like this?

The pieces started to click together during the summer of 2018. At the time, I was reporting on an article



about the field of sports science and I was trying to understand why so much scientific research leaves out women. The bias against women in biomedical research was something I knew about on a subconscious level, but I admit, I never really thought about it explicitly. As a journalist who covers sports, science, and health, I regularly come across studies that involved men as participants. When I couldn't find research that included participants who were women, I gave scientists the benefit of the doubt. I assumed the lack of representation wasn't intentional. There had to be a perfectly reasonable explanation. Maybe women were harder to recruit. Maybe women weren't interested in participating in studies.

Then I fell down a deep rabbit hole.

As I read more papers and talked to experts, I began to understand that the exclusion of women was more than an oversight. It became clear how, for decades, scientists have worked under the assumption that women and men are biologically and physiologically the same, if you just ignore the reproductive organs. How so much of what we take as gospel about exercise training, nutrition, performance, and injury prevention is based on what's found in human participants who are men or experiments with male cells or animals. How scientists don't know for sure whether those recommendations apply to women. How they didn't see a need to address those data gaps.

But "women are not small men," as Stacy Sims, an exercise physiologist and nutrition scientist who studies sex, gender, and sports science, told me. Yet that simple proposition underpins the current system of sports and science. And ignoring important biological, anatomical, and physiological differences between women and men can have real, negative implications outside the laboratory.

It's a curious disconnect. The number of girls and women taking part in physical activity, from fitness classes and recreational leagues to professional sports, has risen dramatically over the last fifty years. In the United States, 3.4 million girls play high school sports. At the collegiate level, the number of women playing sports has increased 600 percent from the early 1970s. This groundswell is a global phenomenon. At the Tokyo Summer Olympics in 2021, women made up nearly 49 percent of the competitors, making them the most gender-equal Games in Olympic history.

But the fields of exercise and sports science haven't kept pace with this rising population of active women. Even in the twenty-first century, coaches, doctors, trainers, and athletes themselves know the bare minimum about women's health, and women struggle to find care and advice to help them feel their best. There isn't much research that looks at the factors that influence athletic performance or the effectiveness of different training and nutrition interventions among women.

There's another inherent, deeper contradiction embedded in the fabric of science and of sports. In the scientific literature and research laboratories, the features that make a body distinctly female aren't important enough to warrant additional investigation, but in the world of sports, that viewpoint is flipped on its head. The very characteristics that scientists cast aside as no big deal — the menstrual cycle, hormones, the uterus, ovaries, breasts — are the reason women were marginalized and presumed to be unfit for sports, or at least in need of a segregated competition category. The confluence of these two beliefs has had a huge impact on the athletic lives of women.

From *Up to Speed: The Groundbreaking Science of Women Athletes* by Christine Yu, published on May 16, 2023, by Riverhead, an imprint of Penguin Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Random House LLC. Copyright © 2023 Christine Yu.

alumni news

BACCHANAL BOOGIE

On April 1, students celebrated the arrival of warm weather with the always-popular Bacchanal Spring Concert. The multi-artist festival is held on Low Steps and brings out droves of students for good tunes and good times.

OLIVIA KATE NAMKOONG '23

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Environmentalist Joshua Spodek '93 is living off the grid to encourage sustainability.

Welcome to Alumnihood, Class of 2023

By Sherri Pancer Wolf '90

One of Columbia College's most memorable traditions is Class Day, a special celebration filled with excitement, memories and a strong sense of Lion pride. We salute the professors who challenged and inspired us, the friends who became like family and the moments that shaped us.

Class Day is not just about the past, however; it's also about the future — a time to look forward to new adventures and opportunities as you step into the world as alumni. To our newest graduates, just as your time at Columbia has been transformative, being part of the alumni community will enrich your life. You automatically become members of the Columbia College Alumni Association, as well as Columbia College Young Alumni, which comprises the 10 most recent classes of graduates. CCYA offers different ways to connect with peers as well as opportunities to stay involved with friends, classmates and faculty. It provides a rich network of advisors, whether you are navigating a new career, graduate program or community. And it offers special programming that focuses on the interests of young graduates.

As you take your next steps as proud graduates, we want to introduce you to some of CCYA's talented and successful leaders. Here, they offer advice and share what's been the best part about being in CCYA.

MICHAEL ITO EDMONSON '20

BRANDON SHI '22

If you're able to, I'd recommend taking some time after graduation to slow down and unplug before continuing on to wherever you're going next — whether you're starting a job, going to grad school or pursuing some other passion. After four years of undergrad and reaching such a significant milestone, you deserve some time off to hit the pause button, recharge and relax!

It has been really rewarding to stay in touch with College friends and mentors through CCYA, especially those who work in different companies and industries, whom I feel I can turn to for advice and a sense of perspective. It's been a good experience going to alumni events and reconnecting with familiar faces.

RITA ZHANG '17

Here are some things I learned that help keep me in check when I'm nervous or unsure: People who inspire and better you are usually the kindest ones you'll meet. Keep them in your circle. Savor the moments of private joy, seek feedback and don't believe every criticism you receive. Jot down quotations that move you as you are reading; they'll come in handy. Tell someone in person how much you appreciate them. Call your mother.

I'm on the Engagement Committee of the CCYA board, so I get to create fun social events for young alums. Recently, we organized a rooftop happy hour, a private museum tour at Neue Galerie and a tech social at The Columbia Startup Lab. It's a special joy to see our gatherings spark conversations between participants. The environment we help curate is a direct reflection of the board's collaborative dynamic. We always make sure to take time to celebrate each other's efforts and turn an alchemy of creative ideas and diverse interests into events/initiatives.

MARIA SUN

MARVIN CLARK '19

As a brand-new alum, you should get comfortable with being uncomfortable. The early part of your career is full of opportunities to make mistakes and learn from them. This process will repeat itself endlessly as long as you continue to take on new challenges. There will be times when the space between where you are and where you want to be will feel like a chasm; you should be kind to yourself as you make your way, and remain confident that you will make it and that you already are exactly who you need to be to continue. This is your path and no one else's. You contain multitudes waiting to be discovered, and the unearthing process can get rocky.

The most fun thing about being part of CCYA is reconnecting with my peers and the Columbia community, and making new friends through the programming we put on. I probably had more fun at Homecoming after I graduated than when I was a student. That's nostalgia for you, I guess! But more than that, I have enjoyed many run-ins with classmates at CCYA events and taking the opportunity to catch up with them. The pandemic definitely put things in perspective and has made me appreciate all of the communities I am part of so much more.

*book*shelf

FRANK COSTELLO
A NOVEL
Ronald K. Fried
WHITE CAT, BLACK DOG
STORIES
KELLY LINK
FINALIST FOR THE PULITZER PRIZE
THE GREAT RECLAMATION
RACHEL HENG

Healthcare Upside Down: A Critical Examination of Policy and Practice *by Dr. Henry Buchwald '54.* Buchwald, a surgeon and professor, and the author of hundreds of medical publications, offers critique on the current state of healthcare in the United States (Springer, $44.24).

Science Goes to the Movies: From Black Holes to Killer Robots *by Michael Franzblau '61.* Could the subjects of sci-fi movies actually be possible? Franzblau considers the question by examining a variety of topics including artificial intelligence and alien life (Bowker, $9.95).

Mission Possible: Getting Change People Want *by Frank Stoppenbach '62.* An account of Stoppenbach's history of advocacy and adventures in New York politics, as well as insights into recent changes in the computer industry (The Troy Book Makers, $29.99).

The Theory and Practice of Reception Study: Reading Race and Gender in Twain, Faulkner, Ellison, and Morrison *by Philip Goldstein '66.* Goldstein's study shows how these four authors' novels forcefully undermined racial and sexual divisions in the South and contemporary culture in the 19th and 20th centuries (Routledge, Kindle edition, $52.95).

SUBMIT YOUR BOOK TO CCT

Alums! Have you written a book in the last year? Tell us about it!

college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_bookshelf

Ruin: A Novel of Flyfishing in Bankruptcy *by Leigh Seippel '68.* After financial disaster, a young couple flees Manhattan for the Hudson Valley, where the husband takes up fly fishing with a charismatic and eccentric new friend (City Point Press, $27).

Frank Costello: A Novel *by Ronald K. Fried '77.* In this historical novel, Fried uses Costello's own words to offer a reimagined, but historically accurate, first-person account of the notorious New York City gangster's life (Excelsior Editions, $21.95).

Growing Up Getty: The Story of America's Most Unconventional Dynasty *by James Reginato '83.* The author offers a revealing look into the extraordinary lives of the sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of oil magnate J. Paul Getty. (Gallery Books, $17.99).

Marcel Breuer: Shaping Architecture in the Post-War Era *by John Poros '85.* In each chapter, Poros studies a specific Breuer building and puts it into context alongside other post-war architectural movements such as Brutalism and Surrealism (Routledge, Kindle edition, $52.95).

Vidding: A History *by Francesca Coppa '91.* A close read about the art form and subcultures of vidding — in which fans edit an existing film, music video, TV show or other performance and set it to music of their choosing (University of Michigan Press, $29.95).

White Cat, Black Dog: Stories *by Kelly Link '91.* Link's previous book of short stories was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize; her new set of surreal fairy tales was inspired by the works of the Brothers Grimm, 17th-century French lore and Scottish ballads (Random House, $27).

Where Paralytics Walk and the Blind See: Stories of Sickness and Disability at the Juncture of Worlds *by Mary Dunn '98.* Dunn explores the time of early Catholic Canada under French rule and shows it to be a period rich with alternative understandings of infirmity, disease and death (Princeton University Press, $29.95).

There Is No Place Without You: Poems *by Maya Bernstein '00.* This debut volume of poetry delves into the deep subjects of motherhood, contemplation, religion and the effects of illness on the body and spirit (Ben Yehuda Press, $14.95).

Fit Nation: The Gains and Pains of America's Exercise Obsession *by Natalia Mehlman Petrzela '00.* Petrzela confronts contemporary exercise culture and answers the question of how fitness has become both inescapable and inaccessible (University of Chicago Press, $29).

The Guide to Being a Dictator's Mistress *by Cedric Mendoza-Tolentino '05.* In this collection's title story, characters are trapped in the orbit of those ruling with an iron fist and must find ways to survive (Unsolicited Press, $18).

The Great Reclamation: A Novel *by Rachel Heng '11.* Set in Singapore during the waning years of British rule, this love story is about a young couple caught in the tragic history of colonialism and occupation (Riverhead Books, $28).

—Jill C. Shomer

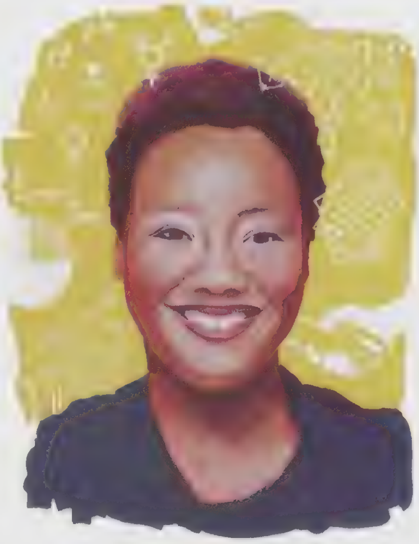
lions

By Anne-Ryan Sirju JRN'09

Milka Milliance '05

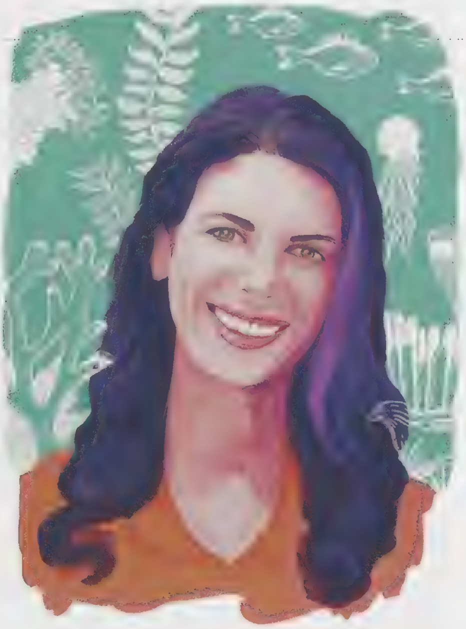
Forward-thinking companies have learned that having a wide variety of life experiences and viewpoints in their workforce can boost creativity and provide better working environments. To that end, the diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) consulting field has grown to meet the needs of workplaces looking for guidance; for **Milka Milliance '05,** co-founder of Different., inclusivity is not just a job, it's also a passion.

As an anthropology and Middle Eastern studies double major, Milliance has always been interested in multiculturism and identity. After earning an M.B.A. from Babson College in 2009, she began working as a consultant focusing on DEI. But after more than a decade in the industry, she felt something was missing in the typical approach. "After everything that happened during the pandemic — the Black Lives Matter movement, George Floyd's murder — the field was blowing up; there was just a huge demand," she says.



Her search for a new approach led her to co-found Different. with Grace Yi and Alex Suggs in 2022; each brings a unique expertise to their DEI work, doing everything from company culture assessments to leadership development to helping to implement best practices. "We wanted to do DEI differently; we didn't want it to be the cookie-cutter experience with everybody saying the same thing," she says. "We wanted to really bring in a fresh perspective and to go into the work to focus on building bridges, in addition to unpacking a lot of the historical narratives that have basically created the systems that we have now."

She continues, "We're making sure that we're building a future for the next generation that is beyond where we are today."



Rachel Silverstein '06

As an environmental biology major, **Rachel Silverstein '06** had a transformative experience studying the reefs of Western Australia. Her passion for coral led her to grad school in the Sunshine State, where she is now executive director of Miami Waterkeeper, a nonprofit that advocates for South Florida waterways.

Silverstein's Miami Waterkeeper work focuses on three primary areas — clean water, habitat protection and sea level rise — and she has had some major water wins during her nine years on the job. During the 2013 dredging of the Port of Miami, many endangered coral species were killed; the organization filed an Endangered Species Act suit against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to stop the damage. As part of the settlement, Miami Waterkeeper was able to have 10,000 corals replaced in the bay; today, they are once again reproducing in the wild.

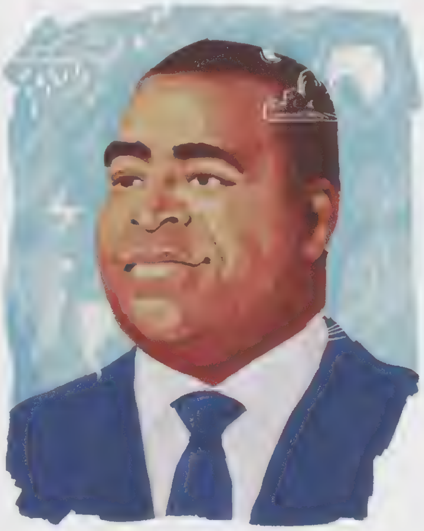
Silverstein scored another big achievement by highlighting how climate change will continue to affect the nearby Turkey Point Nuclear Generating Station (it is predicted to be underwater by 2040). Thanks to her organization challenging the extension of the station's operating license, all U.S. nuclear power plants will now be subject to a full environmental review before having their licenses renewed.

In January, Silverstein was awarded a prestigious Elevate Prize, which recognized her impact as a global leader and social entrepreneur, receiving a $250,000 unrestricted grant to continue her work to protect waterways and educate the public.

Silverstein can now plan for the next decade, using what she has learned locally to shape the world. "Sea level rise resiliency is critically important in Miami because of our low elevation and porous geology," she says. "And if we can solve problems related to climate change here, we can scale our work to be applicable almost anywhere."

Jason Frazer '05

Jason Frazer '05's day starts while many of us are still asleep. As a meteorologist and the co-anchor of FOX Weather's 6:00 a.m. show, he gets up at 3:00 a.m. to make sure viewers know what to expect from our ever-changing climate. Frazer, who calls himself a lifelong weather fan, has had a career full of twists and turns but says he wouldn't have it any other way.



Frazer interned for CBS News and PIX11 while at the College but took a finance job after graduation. The political science major, however, felt called back to journalism and in 2008 he jumped back into reporting, working at stations up and down the East Coast. He later decided to make a third big career change and went back to school for meteorology, earning a certificate in 2019 from the Broadcast Meteorology Program at Mississippi State University. He became a meteorologist for Cleveland's WKYC and, in 2021, took a plunge into the unknown to join FOX Weather, a first-of-its-kind, 24-hour digital streaming weather service. He became the face of the morning show when it launched in October 2021.

"I always approach weather from the perspective of making things applicable to people's lives," he says. "There is no greater feeling than when somebody says, 'Wow, I now understand weather because I watched one of your forecasts!'"

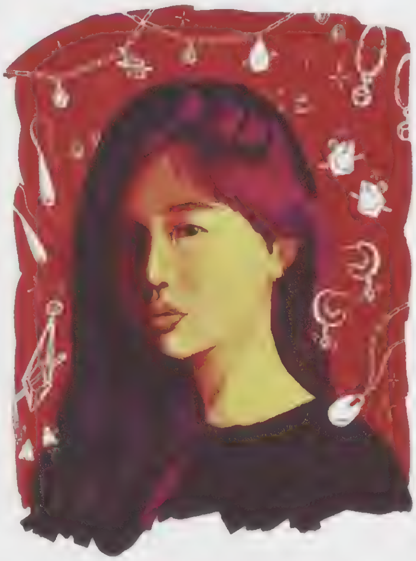
From hurricanes to tornadoes, ice storms to blizzards, Frazer keeps viewers abreast of major events that might be heading their way. "I love my job," Frazer says. "Every day, we're trying to figure out ways we can explain what's happening in the atmosphere and how it applies to your life."

Olivia Shih '11

"The way I think about it is, I make jewelry for soft-spoken people with a backbone," says jewelry designer **Olivia Shih '11.**

Shih approaches her design work with a careful, introspective attitude. Her creative process for her necklaces, rings and earrings draws from real life: "I start with a moment or something visual that really touches me, and then take that inspiration to make it into a reality," she says, describing her work as being both "calm" and "abstract." Her jewelry can be found in stores across the country.

Shih graduated from the California College of the Arts in 2014 with a B.F.A. in jewelry and metal arts, and founded her eponymous line the next year. Each collection has a distinct look: "Liquid Gold" focuses on gentle, bulbous shapes made of yellow gold; "Lumen" features hand-carved rock crystal that is polished to a glow; "Murmur" showcases delicately hammered mixed metals.



In October 2020 the Woman's Jewelry Association awarded Shih the Cindy Edelstein Jewelry Design Scholarship, which she used to take classes in lapidary (the cutting and shaping of precious stones). In 2022, Shih was chosen as one of 13 designers to create a capsule collection featuring diamonds with De Beers' Code of Origin (a way of tracing diamonds and ensuring they are conflict free) for the Radiance by Couture initiative.

"On the surface, my work might be very quiet, but it has its own point of view," says Shih. Going forward, she plans to work more with semiprecious stones and minerals while continuing to find the joy in creating pieces that speak to her unique aesthetic.

Illustrations by Alyssa Carvara

*class*notes

EILEEN BARROSO

College graduates were all smiles at Class Day on May 16.

[illegible]

1953

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Thank you to **Stanley Maratos** BUS'60, who shared a wonderful note:

"As I welcome the 90s, my mind drifts back to the great days at Columbia, both in class and on the basketball court. I have wonderful memories of Professors William A. Hance '38, BUS'41, GSAS'49, Bob Carey and all the other faculty who made Columbia a great place to learn. I also remember playing basketball alongside greats John Azary '51 and Bob Reiss '52 during our undefeated season, which eventually landed us in the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame. But I especially remember my freshman year playing with fellow Stuyvesant H.S. classmates **Paul "Whitey" Brandt, Jack Molinas** and **Mike Langol**; we were known as the "four horsemen."

"Upon graduation, I was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force through AFROTC, and married my sweetheart, Amaryllis, whom I had met at a Phi Kappa Psi party two years earlier.

"I spent the next 30 years on active duty, retiring as a full colonel. Some of my assignments included commander of the 54th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron at Pease AFB (N.H.) and the 67th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron at RAF Woodbridge (U.K.).

"I spent two years in Vietnam. In 1975 I was selected for a diplomatic assignment to be the U.S. Air attaché to Greece, working from the U.S. embassy in Athens. My last assignment was as a Wing Commander of the 1100 Air Force Wing at Bolling AFB (D.C.).

"I retired as a command pilot, with more than 5,500 flying hours, including 127 combat missions. I was awarded more than 31 decorations, including the Legion of Merit, two Distinguished Flying Crosses and four Air Medals. Also while in the Air Force I was able to return to Columbia to earn a master's from the Business School.

"When I retired from the AF I started teaching as a professor in the aviation management and business studies department of St. Francis College in Brooklyn. When I left St. Francis — as the department head for Florida in the late '90s — it had grown to the largest enrollment in the school.

"While in the AF my wife of almost 70 years and four children had multi-year tours overseas (France, United Kingdom and Athens, Greece). The kids went to five high schools in four countries.

We now spend most of our time at Treasure Island, Fla., although we maintain a home on Staten Island.

"We are active members of the Next to Last Rendezvous Club of all the Florida athletes of the early '50s. We try to rendezvous every two years."

Please send your news and memories to the email address at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

Enjoy the summer!

1954

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Happy summer, Class of 1954!

We heard from **Herb Zydney** SEAS'59: "Since retiring from AT&T Bell Labs in 1997, I have had many busy years dealing with retiree issues and helping assure the benefits they earned were received. For a time, I was president of the Lucent Retirees Organization, voluntarily serving more than 100,000 mostly salaried retirees. In many meetings with Lucent corporate staff, I found pension accounting troubling. There was much publicity, and I found a weakness in Financial Accounting Standards Board accounting practices that reported pension data in annual corporate reports. In preparing a paper to submit for discussion, I was featured (in 2005) on the first business page of *The New York Times* commenting on 'a murky pension rule' (read it online: bit.ly/405CC6j). A few important accounting changes resulted.

"More recently I have been a supporter of the National Retirees Legislative Network. I was invited earlier this year to its annual meeting in Washington, D.C., and arranged to meet with the staffs of Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Jerry Nadler '69 (D-N.Y.). I presented NRLN position papers on critical retiree issues, including pension de-risking and Medicare Advantage costs and shortcomings. For example, MA does not guarantee access to all Medicare doctors and hospitals. With Schumer's staff, I coined the term 'Medicare Disadvantage,' which received a chuckle. There is optimism that some important changes will come during the rest of the legislative session. More when the results come in."

We also heard from **Ron Sugarman**: "I was surprised and remain saddened to recently learn of **Bernd Brecher**'s passing. He was a one-of-a-kind person, whom the Class of '54 was fortunate to have as its leader.

"As to trip planning, my wife, Hisako, and I intended to take a late spring trip to see the Sugarmans of London (our son, his wife and our two grandkids). A side visit to Paris was included in our agenda."

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
HN	Institute of Human Nutrition
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary
VPS	Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons

GRACE COSGRIFF

Gerard A. Forlenza '43 was in good spirits celebrating his 100th birthday on March 25 with family and friends at the home of his daughter Grace Cosgriff and her husband, Stephen, in Glen Rock, N.J. Fellow alumni joining the celebration included, kneeling, left to right: Jerry McManus '89 and Forlenza's sons Michael F. Forlenza '78 and Gerard A. Forlenza Jr. '76; and standing, left to right, A. Mauricio Matiz SEAS'79, Joseph Cosgriff '78 and Brian Altano '78.

Please take a moment to send your news to us at cct@columbia.edu; your classmates want to hear from you!

1955

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It was wonderful to hear from so many members of the class. Please keep it up! Email us at the address above, or use the online Class Notes webform (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note) to send us your news, general thoughts or College memories.

Now, on to the updates from your classmates!

Gordon Silverman SEAS'57 writes, "Once again teaching a grad course at Manhattan College on artificial intelligence."

Dr. **Allen Hyman** notes: "This year's Commencement was especially auspicious. It was the 40th time that I have led the honorees and assisted in hooding them. It was particularly rewarding because our granddaughter graduated from our college and our grandson received a master's in art."

Bill Kronick writes, "Apart from this long period of dramatic weather across the country, the maddening war abroad and the impending exit, one can hope, of our first and last wannabe emperor, I note that little has changed in my personal life. Am still on a novel begun before the pandemic and find myself, as I hit 90, living more vicariously each day in the life and concerns of my son, but 30! Hope my classmates, all, have rewarding days before them."

Herb Gardner greets classmates: "Ahoy, members of CC'55. I noticed in the Winter/Spring 2023 issue that our Class Notes column was drifting toward the first column (1945–53)! We are not gone yet. So, let us know what is up with you. I believe that I have found the secret of useful longevity: KEEP BUSY! In my case, teaching as a volunteer in Palm Beach County, Fla., public schools, conducting my community orchestra, writing music for students and playing some good golf. I also vote! Keep in touch."

Dr. **Sheldon "Shelly" Wolf** VPS'59 reached out: "I am 89, and my wife, Barbara BC'57, and I had our 63rd wedding anniversary. I work part time as director of the memory disorder program at Olive View UCLA Medical Center. I love seeing patients and teaching residents. I suppose that I will retire in the near future. It is not easy to get old and this year was difficult for me with Covid-19 and a deep vein occlusion.

"The death of my dear friend Dr. **Mort Civan** VPS'59 was a big loss for me. I wrote this poem about him."

Mort. April 21, 2022

Smiling and caring he would always be around;
Today he is in a coffin and under the ground
We shared our youth together, you and I.
Never imagining that you might die.
O dear friend, flights of Angels to speed thee to thy rest could I send
Instead I have a hole in my heart I cannot mend
O death you can be a friend,
stopping pain that doesn't end.
But you grabbed Mort like a thief in the night
And he is now only a collection of atoms,
Nevermore in my sight.

[Editor's note: Read more about Mort in "Obituaries," found online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

Warren Cohen has good news: "Still able to walk and talk, often at the same time. Have a new updated edition of my book *East Asia at the Center: Four Thousand Years of Engagement with the World* coming out this year. Columbia University Press published the first edition in 2000. A couple of things happened in last 20 or so years that needed to be discussed.

"One delightful story is the reunion with my first love, Carol Shufro BC'55, with whom I started a relationship at a Hanukkah party in John Jay in 1951. She came to a birthday party friends made for me in Cambridge last year. We exchange emails frequently and FaceTime occasionally."

Stanley Corngold is publishing his book *Expeditions to Kafka: Selected Essays*. This book is intended to join the international celebration, in 2024, of Kafka's great distinction; that year is the centenary of his death. Stanley is still active after his retirement from Princeton's Department of German and Comparative Literature some 14 years ago, having recently given a number of Zoom lectures to places as far remote as South Africa and Georgia (the country!).

He adds, "In my freshman year, I lived in a double room in Hartley Hall with a roommate, **Harry N. Scheiber**; I spent the first half of my sophomore year in a double room with **Eugene Weiner** GSAS'70. Little did I realize what treasure I was privy to. These two young men were to become scholars and activists of the greatest distinction. Unlike myself, both had a plan: Harry, American history; Gene, Jewish rabbinical studies. For my part, I might have been the character played by Gérard Depardieu in the film *Loulou*, who, on being asked what 'he knew how to do,' replied, 'Everything ... and nothing.'

"Perhaps I would define myself in opposition to these two great men; I cared more for science and novels than for history (I came in as a chemistry major and emerged with a degree in English and comparative literature). And I was, and remained, seriously secular. When Harry, in 1968, at 35, became a professor of history at Dartmouth, I was still at work on my doctoral thesis. Harry has had a most impressive career as jurist and legal scholar, dean and more. Gene died in 2003 at 70, a tragically young age by today's standards. A glorious obituary of this rabbi, sociologist and courageous activist can be found in Ha'aretz: 'He was a giant of coexistence and of Jewish culture and society.' (online at bit.ly/41nWsdT) It is finally thrilling to learn what splendid works and richness of personality would be achieved by two roommates whose latent powers, some 75 years ago, I could not divine."

Stanley would be delighted to hear from classmates.

Ross Grumet sends "Greetings from Atlanta. Still enjoying my psychiatric practice here, adding telemedicine and e-prescribing. My wife is still writing and my son is still a nomadic retired attorney.

"Always being reminded of our class and our teachers; amazing to have talked to people like Jacques Barzun CC 1927, GSAS 1932; Meyer Schapiro CC 1924, GSAS 1935; Ernest Nagel GSAS 1931; Tom Flanagan '49; Lionel Trilling CC 1925, GSAS'38; and so many more (including all of you out there) that I feel being in CC'55 was some kind of lucky break."

CCT is sorry to report the April 27, 2023, death of Rabbi **Harold S. Kushner**, whom *The New York Times* called "a reassuring best-selling author" of books such as *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*, in its obituary for him (read it online at bit.ly/3HNNZcN). *CCT* will feature an obituary in the Fall 2023 issue.

1956

Robert Siroty
rrs76@columbia.edu

Bob Lauterborn has been elected president of the Retired Faculty Association at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is scheduled for a trip to Egypt and Jordan in late November. He reports his motto is, "As long as the wheels stay on, you've got to keep rolling."

On a very sad note, I report the passing of **Alan Broadwin** SEAS'57, on December 17, 2022. Alan was a strong supporter of both his alumni classes, and will be missed. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

Otherwise, it's been kind of quiet, so if you have any news, please advise.

If you are reading this, and haven't gotten my emails, it is because we don't have your email address. If this is the case, please send it to me, and I will transmit it, with your permission, to the Alumni Office.

1957

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

[Editor's note: *CCT* is saddened to report the passing of longtime class correspondent **Herman D. Levy** on May 7, 2023. We worked with him on this, his last column. Going forward, please send your news to us via the email above or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. An obituary will be published in a future issue if information is received.]

I was pleased to hear from several classmates for this issue.

Ludwig Gelobter GS'62 writes, "Unfortunately, I was not able to finish my education at the College (I went to GS, evenings, for several years). But I remember that year, though mostly from the extracurricular point of view: WKCR, the John Jay Lounge.

"Today, after traveling the world, I live in Lafayette, La., with my wife of 64 years while our children live in NYC, New Haven and Oakland.

"In the intervening years I met with Dr. **John Norton** in California as well as saw **Steve Fybish** on Broadway when we still lived in the city."

Michael Ferragamo writes, "Recently lost my good friend and classmate from high school, the College, VP&S (the medical school) and internship, **Louis Ciardullo.** Will miss him! He passed away in January.

"I retired from general urological practice 26 years ago and recently from my urology coding talks that I gave throughout the United States.

Send Us Your News!

If you don't see a column for your class, it means we have not heard from you or your classmates. You can change that! Please share news, updates, and College memories and stories with us for inclusion in a future issue. Email us at cct@columbia.edu, or use our webforms to send in a Class Note (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note) or a photo (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo). We hope to hear from you!

Recently spoke with **Neil Franzese** and **John Norton.** Both seem healthy. Would love to hear from other classmates, especially those who played on the lightweight football team. How many of our class are still kicking? Call me at 516-741-0118 or 516-721-8149, or email me: liqgold2@aol.com."

Alan Rosen, who lives in Woodmere (Long Island), N.Y., writes, "We are all doing well, although my wife is battling dementia, but living at home with caregiver support. I am alert and still doing some traveling to Jamaica, Scottsdale and Maine. Will be 88 in November. Go Lions! I can be reached by email: bosoxalan@yahoo.com."

Eugene Wagner shares, "I regretfully inform classmates of **Herb Sturman** LAW'61's passing on April 2, 2023. Herb and his accomplishments were featured in the Spring/Summer 2022 Class Notes column (college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/springsummer-2022/article/class-notes). A truly accomplished member of our class, loved and respected by everyone who was fortunate to have known him. Deepest condolences to his wife of 61 years, Beverly DM'57, and his incredible family. He will be missed."

Erich Gruen writes, "Health and survival seem predominant themes in the reflections of our contemporaries. I look with dismay upon the fact that our class inches toward the beginning of the Class Notes section. We all know what that means. Survivor numbers dwindle. I have spoken at too many memorials and written too many obituaries in recent years. So far I have escaped any serious physical problems, and I plug along in the profession.

"Some places still invite me to speak, and I am occasionally asked to submit an article to a journal (by those who are aware that I am still alive). Topics like 'ancient anti-semitism,' 'the diaspora in antiquity,' 'Greek myth and the Jews' and 'the retelling of biblical narrative' are in my recent repertoire. One Zoom even had me addressing an audience in Shanghai. (I have never actually been to China). And I will be giving a Zoom class to an adult learning institute (that means mostly geezers) on Jewish humor in ancient texts.

"It was good to read about **Dick Berger,** with whom I have been out of touch for well over a half century, in the Fall 2022 Class Notes column (college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/fall-2022/article/class-notes). Very sad to learn of the death of **Al Frommer.** This publication also allowed me to reconnect with my old friend **Ron Kushner,** a real gain for me. We have now exchanged several emails and a Zoom call. I strongly urge classmates to send their news to *CCT* — while they still can."

Mac Gimse let us know, "In mid-April I had a 24-ft. stainless steel sculpture installed in Northfield, Minn., that is dedicated to Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, eight of whom have come to the St. Olaf College campus, where I am a professor emeritus of art. The poem 'Striving for Peace on Horizon's Brim' was sung by the St. Olaf Choir in Carnegie Hall on February 7, 2020.

"There's no way I can say how much the Core Curriculum has meant to me in life and in my teaching career. My English writing class set me free from the tyranny of rhyme. And the visual art course sent me to MoMA to sit for hours only a few feet away from *Guernica,* taking notes and drawing, and writing a major paper that set my compass to art that is dedicated to making peace all the way to age 87. The liberal arts drove me into a transformative aesthetic based on compassion. I remain obsessed."

Sarah Kass '87 sent news about her father, Rabbi **Alvin Kass,** who was honored by NYU (where he earned a Ph.D. in 1976) with the 2023 Eugene J. Keogh Award for Distinguished Public Service. Read more online: bit.ly/3n0s3nD.

I am sorry to note the passing of the following classmates: **Robert J. Lehner,** an attorney and justice official who lived in North Miami Beach, Fla., on January 15, 2023; **Paul S. Frommer,** a naval commander who lived in Alexandria, Va., on January 21, 2023; **Jerome H. Rettig,** an attorney who lived in Lake Worth, Fla., on February 5, 2023; **John B. Ahouse,** an archivist and librarian who lived in Long Beach, Calif., on April 3, 2023; **Edward R. Heiser,** a business executive and magician who lived in Savannah, Ga., on April 5, 2023; and **Edward B. Koren,** a renowned cartoonist who lived in Brookfield, Vt., on April 14, 2023. Read more about some of these classmates, as well as about **Herb Sturman,** in the "Obituaries" section of this issue, found online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

1958

Peter Cohn
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As this issue of *CCT* goes to press at the beginning of June, it is my sad duty to report the deaths of three classmates: **Bob Waldbaum** VPS'62 **Morris Amitay** and **Don Gonson.**

Bob Waldbaum was one of Long Island's best known and most competent urologists, as well as one of the leading figures at metropolitan New York's newest medical school (Hofstra/Northwell). He was also a close, personal friend of mine. I met him during Freshman Orientation Week in September 1954 when we were both 15 and Ford Foundation Early Admission Scholars. I was his classmate at VP&S, and after graduation kept in touch with him through the years. Over the last several decades, my wife, Joan, and I had the pleasure of traveling with him and his wife, Ruth, to interesting international destinations. Proud of his Columbia degrees, Bob was also active in College and Medical School alumni affairs and will be sorely missed by all those who came into contact with him.

My condolences to Ruth and to Bob's extended family.

I met **Morris Amitay** on the freshman "B" basketball team (the equivalent of a freshman JV team). Morrie had been a very good player at Ramaz H.S. and mentored me on the intricacies of the two-handed set shot (old timers will remember that shot, no longer used in the modern game except for foul shooting). After playing JV basketball, Morrie went on to Harvard Law, and then to positions in the Foreign Service before becoming executive director of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), his life's passion.

Don Gonson also went to Harvard Law. He stayed on in Boston and subsequently became a partner in one of the area's most prestigious law firms.

Our condolences also go out to the Amitay and Gonson families.

On a less somber note, **Steve Jonas** is still writing about politics for web magazines. A collection of his columns was recently published in a six-volume set of reprints: *Trump's Presidential Years: History as it Happened, 2011–2021* (Kindle Edition). No longer running in long-distance races, Steve says, "I stay in shape with a well-equipped basement gym" that he actually uses!

Alan Tapper also added to our mailbox. After graduation he spent 34 years as a pioneering computer programmer for various "U.S. government intelligence agencies" during the Cold War. Too hush-hush for details. Alan now spends his retirement years following the exploits of his children and grandchildren.

Finally, a note of congratulation to the women's basketball team. The Lady Lions won their first Ivy League championship in March. Alas, the men have not won a basketball title since 1968(!) and do not appear poised to collect another one in the near future. But that is not true for the men's tennis and baseball teams, which were once again looking forward to highly competitive spring seasons as I write these notes in March.

1959

Norman Gelfand
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Paul Winick writes, "I am trying to stay physically and mentally fit by swimming 80 laps daily in my oceanside condo pool and by continuing to morph into my new writing career after retiring from my pediatric practice. I recently published my fourth book, *The Last Two Jews of Kabul.* It is about two men I read about in the newspaper. One was in his 40s, the other, his 60s, who return to their complex after the fall of the Taliban in the early 21st century. They literally are the last two Jews of Kabul, and who now hate each other, blaming the other for their imprisonment by the Taliban. From there, I have created a fictionalized novel using these two characters as the main protagonists.

"My wife of nearly 60 years, Dotty, has continued to paint and has become an accomplished landscape and animal painter. I need more wall space to hang all her beautiful paintings.

"My son, Chuck, and his wife, Maureen, both psychologists, live nearby.

"Their gifted triplet children are off to college. The boy is studying political science at Tufts. One girl is studying neuroscience at Tulane, the other is at the Tisch School of the Arts at NYU studying movie animation. I miss seeing them regularly. Thank God for texting and Zoom.

"My daughter, Ruth, and her husband, Frank, moved to Northern Florida to be near their children. They continue lawyering while dabbling in cattle ranching on the 40-acre property they purchased. Her adult children are quite successful in their chosen professions.

"Regards to all classmates. Would like to hear from as many as possible: pwinick10@gmail.com."

Bruce Schlein wants us to know, "My wife, Alice, and I are doing well in our new digs, The Woodlands at Furman, a Continuing Care Community. So far we are living in a house on the Woodlands campus and have filled it with Alice's looms and my stereo stuff, so we have loom clacking and music all day long.

"I am still doing lots of photography and have a small show at the hallway gallery here at The Woodlands.

"I am still able to ride my recumbent sports trike 6 miles at least three times a week.

"Our older son, Willy, the architect, has designed an inflatable system of buildings and covered walkways for pop-up emergency health facilities for the WHO and will go to Italy to review submissions for construction with two other architects from Europe. Good stuff!

"Our grandson is in his junior year at Clemson, majoring in agribusiness and minoring in Spanish, and was looking forward to a summer internship with a large agribusiness company.

"Our granddaughter will be going to the University of South Carolina in the fall, to the Darla Moore School of Business.

"That is all the news there is, and it is good news."

Richard Engelman lets us know, "Time flies when you are having fun. I can't believe we are talking about our 65th reunion.

"I remain employed as chief of cardiac surgical research at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass. As I write this, my wife of 62-plus years and I are in sunny Boca Raton, Fla., until April, when we will return to frigid Massachusetts. Our son, Daniel, is also a cardiac surgeon and now president of a society called Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (Cardiac Surgery), which provides a template for improving care for patients having cardiac surgery. He has two daughters, both in the medical field. Our two daughters, Andrea '94 and Margery, have five adult children, but yet no great-grandchildren [for us]. Our older daughter has a website and is a potter, which keeps her busy, and the younger is an attorney working out of NYC. All three, the boy and two girls, are happily married.

"While in Boca Raton, I play a lot of golf and attempt to keep up with the advances in cardiac surgical care. I write a bit and recently collaborated on a book describing the development of cardiac surgery. I am in the process of writing a chapter on the evolution of cardiac surgery at our hospital, the Baystate Medical Center. All told I am busy and enjoying myself."

Steve Trachtenberg is still active and has not lost his sense of humor. "I recently had an Afib procedure. It worked. I'm feeling well. Going to the gym twice a week despite 24 inches of snow. I'm staying busy writing manuscript reviews for The Johns Hopkins University Press and am on the board of the Columbia University Press. Writing occasionally for *The London Times Higher Education* periodical. I'm also on the Bankinter Innovation Foundation Board of Trustees. If I'm up for it, the next meeting was to be in Madrid in June. As I write this, I'm going to Palm Beach in late March for a speaking engagement.

"So, I still chew my own food. Do you perhaps need some snow? We have extra. Organic. Natural. Locally sourced. Falls from the sky. Free. I will pay shipping."

From **Luis Stephens** we hear, "My wife, Karen, and I celebrated our only grandchild's first birthday in February. She's a gorgeous, energetic, bright redhead and we are ecstatic and blessed to have her. Our daughter, her mother, Phoebe Alejandra, wants to surprise us later this year with grandchild numero dos, God willing, another girl. Whoopee!

"I continue painting in my studio in Newburgh, and Karen writes there. Would that we could convert all this self-satisfying and, of course, supremely high-quality, aesthetic production into a little bit of moolah."

I conclude with more of **George Mann**'s contribution. with apologies to George for having to spread his wonderful essay over so many issues of *CCT.*

"As we all know, the world has become a much more rapidly changing, populous and challenging place to enjoy and to live in since we graduated. We have been on quite an exhilarating ride, but not without many concerning social, political, divisive, extremist and violent trends, and problems including the very future of our threatened democracy and living on a habitable earth.

"I have been a professor of health facility design, School of Architecture at Texas A&M University, since 1966, almost 57 years.

"I have seen both the best of Texas growth, as well as the gap between the haves and the have-nots widen. The opportunities have been plentiful, and I have adapted, as the environment is quite different than the one in which I was raised, in the beautiful Fort Tryon area of northern Manhattan.

"However, the time and space dimension has its own beauty and majesty. I am still very much a Democrat!

"In 1963 I founded George J. Mann & Associates Planners and Architects, and in 1970 I founded the RPD (Resource Planning & Development) Group, in order to undertake larger projects with colleagues and interdisciplinary teams. I remain founder and chairman of both entities. These activities have allowed me to become a proponent of integrating teaching, research and practice by founding a unique research and design Texas A&M practice-based architectural design studio involving actual health projects, clients, architectural firms and sites and budgets.

"Much of this effort involved designing diverse health and hospital facilities around the globe, from my 600-bed hospital in Imphal, Assam (now Manipur) state, India (an actual project obtained for my thesis project at Columbia) to children's, behavioral, general, cancer and heart facilities; facilities for the elderly; and health science centers, including medical schools and healthy cities. A significant portion of my work involved disadvantaged communities in need both within the United States and in Africa, Central America, South America, China, India, Taiwan, Cambodia, the South Pacific and the United Kingdom."

To be continued.

Columbia Reunion 2024 is scheduled for early June next year. We would like to investigate remote attendance at parts. More information, including exact dates once set, will follow from the Alumni Office and in this column. We look forward to getting togethet then.

Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name: **college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.**

1960

Robert Machleder
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Do you remember the Columbia lion? Remember how he would position himself at the head of the Marching Band and lead the standing crowd in a full-throated rendition of "Roar, Lion, Roar"? How were we to know that within that mascot costume was a lad who would emerge and grow to become the quintessential Columbia alumnus: intelligent, thoughtful, honorable, beneficent, enormously successful in his career and every endeavor, generous, blessed with a gifted sense of humor, and intensely dedicated to his classmates and to Columbia to a degree perhaps unprecedented?

That lion, **Bob Berne** BUS'62, died on January 24, 2023.

It's hard to know where to start given the many aspects of Bob's life that warrant attention, and hard to know how to end, as the limited length of this column could not possibly contain all that could be said.

Bob earned an M.B.A. from the Business School and embarked on a highly successful lifelong career in real estate development. This career began with his engagement at New York City and federal housing agencies and culminated in the founding and management of his own construction firm. He was instrumental in the site selection, design, financing and construction of more than 5,000 residential units in New York City in concert with the Milstein family, one of New York City's most prominent real estate agents. He constructed a 200,000 square-foot shopping mall, developed property in west Florida and was involved in numerous other significant developments.

But Bob's interests and skills transcended his financial successes. In the 1960s, while at the NYC Rent and Rehabilitation Administration, he assisted in the financing for renovations of low-income housing. In the 1970s he was at HUD, managing the financing of Operation Breakthrough, a demonstration program of modular housing. He was a member of the board at the Settlement Housing Fund, which that creates ethnically diverse affordable housing, and was treasurer of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council, a nonprofit research and education organization focused on advancing public policies in support of housing and neighborhoods. As an active alumnus he remained a member of the Business School's Real Estate Program Advisory Board.

Bob's devotion to and support of Columbia was extraordinary. In honor of his father, Gustave Berne CC 1922, LAW 1924, he endowed a professorship, the Gustave M. Berne Professorship in the Core Curriculum. He served on the College's Board of Visitors for 13 years. He chaired the Columbia College Fund for two years and was president of the Columbia College Alumni Association for two years.

Those were not titular appointments bestowed upon a benevolent donor: By all accounts Bob's involvement and leadership were intense and transformative. **Peter Schweitzer** noted, "Bob was an incredibly brilliant force in business and philanthropy." **Larry Rubinstein,** who worked with Bob on the $4 billion Capital Campaign that Bob chaired, noted, "He was instrumental in changing the Columbia College Fund into the great success it is today."

But the chronicle of Bob's service to Columbia would be incomplete if no mention were made of what transpired in 2000. The Lion mascot of old had reached the age of retirement. Racing up and down Wien Stadium's steps had taken its toll. A replacement needed to be obtained. In stepped Bob, and in early 2000, photographs appeared in Columbia publications showing Bob seated next to a new young Lion amid a host of cheerleaders, and beneath the photos the following explanation: "A new lion mascot costume was introduced thanks to the generosity of Robert Berne CC'60, BUS'62, who had been the mascot during his time as a student. The costume was unveiled on February 12, 2000, at a home game against Yale." [Editor's note: See the photo online, as part of the College's obituary, at college.columbia.edu/news/robert-berne-cc-60-bus-62-was-devoted-friend-and-supporter-columbia.]

On November 16, 2006, Bob was awarded the Alexander Hamilton Medal, which is presented to an alum or faculty member for distinguished service and accomplishment in any field of endeavor, and is the highest honor the College bestows. As his classmates gathered in Low Rotunda to sit with Bob and his wife, Steffi, the sense of joy and pride were palpable and we all felt honored and gratified just to be there, to witness the event and to listen to the accolades that recounted Bob's attributes and achievements.

A similar statement, which Austin E. Quigley, dean emeritus of the College and the Brander Matthews Professor of Dramatic Literature, gave to the College for its obituary for Bob (the one referenced in the aforementioned photo link) was, "When I met Bob in 1995, the College was receiving the lowest number of applications in the Ivy League. It is now comfortably positioned among the finest colleges in the land. Many people helped this happen, but a much smaller number played an indispensable role in envisaging the transformation and bringing it about. Bob was one of them. He led by example, and no one who knew him will ever forget the example he set."

Finally, but perhaps most significantly, Bob was thoroughly committed to the class. Prior to every class reunion he served in a leadership capacity on the Reunion Committee that oversaw the arrangements and activities. And after our 30th reunion, he was instrumental in setting up the First Thursday of the Month Class Luncheons which, in the earliest years, convened in various restaurants on the West Side until we moved to the Princeton/Columbia Club, and later the Penn Club, where we remained until these gatherings came to an end in 2020 with the onset of the pandemic and the closures of the club's dining facility and of any possible alternative location. On two occasions the luncheon group convened elsewhere. After **Larry Rubinstein** and **Dave Farmer** left New York for permanent residences in Maine, the luncheon group had lobster in the north. And when Bob was about to turn 65 in 2004 and decided that he would like the luncheon group and their wives to celebrate with him and Steffi, he issued such an invitation. As his guests, we all traveled to the selected location and dined with absolute delight. **Art Delmhorst** and **Larry Rubinstein** expressed fond memories of the event. Larry wrote, "I'll never forget that dinner, when we all stood up and sang 'Sans Souci' and the restaurant staff looked at us in amazement. We were the only ones left in the restaurant; it must have been close to midnight."

WENDY ROBERTS

Don Roberts '61 (left) and Mike Gidos '61 got together in Miami on February 6.

I can't remember the name of the restaurant but I can never forget that time, in Paris.

Thirty years of monthly gatherings; more than 300 marvelous get-togethers. It was there that we thoroughly enjoyed Bob's company. His demeanor, always upbeat and modest; his conversation, thoughtful, intelligent, informative, delivered with a radiant smile, and generously graced with the apt and hilarious anecdotes that characterized his warm, delightful, ever-present sense of humor. After his purchase of the new Lion costume was publicized, someone raised the subject at the lunch table. Bob's face lit up — the inevitable signal that a witty remark was certain to follow. It did: "I told Steffi that I charged the cost of designing and producing the Lion suit against our budget allowance for her purchase of furs."

To Bob's wife, Steffi; his son, Alexander; his daughter, Lizzie; and all other family members, friends and associates, we extend our deepest condolences. He was unique — a very dear and treasured friend — and touched us all.

Yes, we'll always remember — with boundless affection — The Columbia Lion.

1961

Michael Hausig
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Mickey Greenblatt continues to manage the class monthly Zoom meetings. Class speakers discuss appropriate topics of interest and provide valuable insight. The meetings run about one hour. If you are not receiving Mickey's monthly emails about current meetings, please contact him: mickey@mgreenblatt.com.

Speakers and topics for July through October are as follows: Wednesday, July 19, **Bob Pollack** on 45 years at Columbia as professor and dean (title: "You'll Never Get a Job in America"); Wednesday, September 20, **Steve Simring** on the opera season; and Wednesday, October 18, **Bob Salman** on the 2024 election prospects.

John Learned was engaged in his Sunday morning ritual of reading

The New York Times when he heard something vaguely familiar on the local classical PBS station, which he slowly recognized. Turns out it was Britten's "Hymn to Santa Cecilia," of which the first recording was made in St. Paul's Chapel in 1961.

John sang in the St. Paul's Chapel Choir, which was great fun, and for which a group of musicians and others were paid for noontime and Sunday services. It was a good group, and members could sight read and perform Bach chorals a capella. They also played many pranks, such as putting grains of Nitrogen triiodide on the altar, which made the rotund and pompous priest try to walk without touching the floor (there was an inquisition following this but they were not found out.)

"It was a thrill to hear on NPR our Chapel Choir recording from 61 years ago!" John said.

Mike Gidos and **Don Roberts** had a mini-reunion in Florida in early February. (See the nearby photo.) Mike was snowbirding, escaping Maryland's chill while visiting his son, Chris, in the Miami area. Don and his wife, Wendy, flew in from California to see Mike. Following a leisurely lunch and a good deal of can-you-top-this lying about each of their indescribably talented and beautiful grandchildren, Mike headed back to his son's place, and Don and Wendy meandered south to catch a cruise ship through the Panama Canal, then back to San Diego.

About three years ago, Don and Wendy relocated from the little village of Mendocino, where they settled after retirement in 2009, to Santa Rosa, a grudging nod to the wisdom of being close to accessible and good medical care once one has waved goodbye to that 80th year. It's in the middle of California's wine country, and a beautiful area.

Allen Breslow LAW'64 retired at the end of 2022, closed his labor law practice and sold his house in Old Bethpage, N.Y. He and his wife of 59 years, Barbara, have permanently relocated to Hunters Run in Boynton Beach, Fla. **Arnie Intrater** LAW'64 and his wife, Karen, live there too. Anyone in the neighborhood, stop by and visit.

Gene Milone continues as an emeritus professor at the University of Calgary doing academic research projects. He enjoys attending research conference and other webinars virtually, gratefully avoiding real-world travel and hassles!

Having survived a major water leak and ensuing room reconstructions, as well as the continuing pandemic, Gene completed *The Annotated Almagest,* of the major astronomical work of Claudius Ptolemy, for the third volume of a *Collection of Annotations of Ancient Science Books* for The Korean Science and Culture Agency. It was an interesting challenge, but he was fairly familiar with the material from contributing to the chapter on antecedents of western astronomy for *Exploring Ancient Skies* several decades ago. He is now editing the last paper in a series on mass exchange in very close binary stars for a colleague who passed away in 2022.

Gene and his wife, Helen, celebrated their 64th anniversary this year.

Bob Salman was reappointed to the Council on Local Mandates by New Jersey governor Phil Murphy. This is Bob's third four-year term on the council, a nine-member body established by a constitutional amendment that has jurisdiction to decide all county and municipalities claims that the Legislature has enacted a law mandating conduct by the county or municipality without providing funding for the mandate. Council decisions are final and not subject to court review. Four members are chosen by the governor, one by the chief judge and one each by the four legislative leaders.

Bob and his wife, Reva, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June.

Stuart Newman LAW'64's timely article, "The Attorney-Client Privilege," was published in the *New York Law Journal* on February 16. Stuart wrote that while there is general awareness that communications between clients and their attorneys are "privileged," the fine lines of those privileges are not often understood. Failure to understand those limits may cause forced disclosure of assumed confidential information that might have damaging and potential criminal consequences.

Alex Liebowitz, his son David Liebowitz '99, their wives and Alex's three grandchildren came to Copper Mountain, Colo., to ski in March. (My wife, JB, and I are volunteer ski hosts at Copper.) We get together with the family during their time here.

David Michael Wilson passed away on February 27, 2023, of natural causes. David was from Pittsfield, Mass., but loved the energy and feel of New York City and spoke fondly throughout his life of his time in Morningside Heights. He and his friends would go to Birdland, or to a deli on Sunday mornings, or to a jazz club in the Village, or to some odd event at Columbia or NYU, or they would get cheap matinee seats for a Broadway play.

David spent three semesters in law school before joining the Foreign Service with the United States Information Agency. During his 40-year career, he had postings in the Ivory Coast, South Africa, Canada, Switzerland, Belgium and Washington, D.C., and worked on many high-profile events, including the nuclear arms negotiations held with the Soviet Union in Geneva during the early 1980s. During his Washington postings, and after his retirement in the early 2000s and his wife's passing, DMW (as he liked to be called) lived in Bethesda, Md. He loved art, theater, classical music, wine and his class friends from the Columbia University Club in Washington, D.C.

David is survived by his sons, Whitney and Josh; their wives, Dawn and Stephanie; five grandchildren; and his sister Elizabeth Wilson.

Joe Rosenstein informed me that **Joseph Berke,** who was in our class for three years and left early to go to medical school, passed away in January 2021. Joseph was a psychotherapist, author and lecturer. He graduated from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and moved to London in 1965. Here is a link to his Wikipedia page: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Berke.

[Editor's note: See "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1962

John Freidin
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Andy Jampoler's daughter, Chrissy Houlahan (D-Pa.), was elected to her third term as a U.S. representative.

Bob Umans expressed his sadness at **Jim Balquist**'s passing. "We were friends and chemistry majors at Columbia, and enjoyed reconnecting at reunions. I remember one 'Quantitative Analysis' lab where we never had enough time, and decided to turn the clock back 10 minutes to give ourselves extra time. The clock was hung high on the wall so to reach it we had to hoist someone on our shoulders. Of course, Jim was our choice since he was the lightest! How sad to lose him!

"I've started teaching chemistry again, at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. I'm delighted to be back with students! Also still cooking for small dinner parties. Guess chemistry and cooking go together!"

According to Roger Low '66, his St. Anthony brother Edgar Dorsey Walter GS'65, who entered with us in 1958, passed away in February in Naples, Fla. Edgar was born in Tennessee and grew up there, on Lookout Mountain. He made his career in New York real estate as an investor and landlord. He is survived by his former wife, Ingela Walter, and their seven children.

Reminiscing about Columbia, **Ira Bloomgarden** wrote: "Best things were friends; then professors Trilling, Dupee and Bentley; getting a stack pass from 'Senior Seminar'; oh, and the Ivy League Football Championship."

After long careers in public health and epidemiology plus some time in industry, **Daniel Fife** and his wife have retired. They live in Wynnewood, Pa., near Philadelphia, close to their daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren. For those with grandchildren, Daniel "heartily endorses proximity."

After a two-year Covid-19 absence, **John Kater** returned to Hong Kong in autumn 2022 to teach at Ming Hua Theological College. "The countless ways the United States uses its power to damage relations with China is appalling," he says.

While living quietly in Barton, Vt., **Charlie Morrow** makes recorded sounds worldwide. He and his wife, Maija-Leena Remes, won the Sibelius Prize for their comic opera *24 Hours in 48 Minutes.* It premiered in 2022 and will be presented at Helsinki Opera Summer 2023. Soundohm.com (Italy) describes Charlie as "a facilitator, collaborator, and singular artist, whose projects have included chanting, healing, and dream works, museum and gallery installations, large-scale festival events, radio and TV broadcasts, film soundtracks, commercial sound design, and advertising jingles, performed using conch shells, cow and goat horns, Jew's harp, ocarina, and homemade electronics."

Armando Favazza is well but his wife recently contracted Alpha-gal Syndrome, a rare illness, caused by the bite of a lone star tick. There is no treatment, but one can avoid symptoms by not eating anything from a mammal! They live in Columbia, Mo.

Bernie Patten VPS'66 recently took his children, grandchildren and their spouses to Egypt. In preparation, he learned to speak, read and write ancient Egyptian. He asserts he can say important things such as: "Ptah is in the sky, and the alligator is in the river." Furthermore, he writes, "I'm able to read messages in the tombs of nobles," which led to him to observe: "Human nature hasn't changed. Most messages were brags about titles held and jobs done, such as safeguarding sacred secrets and supervising priests. Several men boasted of how many quail chicks they'd captured."

The Library of Congress selected Bernie's book *Neurology Rounds with the Maverick,* about his weird and wonderful patients, as a best book published during the pandemic. His *Tap Talk, Tidbits, and Tips for Dilettante Tappers* was for months, according to Amazon, the bestselling tap book internationally. The question most people asked on his book tour was, "What is a dilettante?" He hopes his masterpiece novel, *How Women Saved Civilization,* will be published soon. In March, Bernie was invited to read at the Texas Storytelling Festival (a slam competition). He recited three poems and placed fourth. After slamming for 32 years, Bernie claims, "Anything can happen at a slam, including nothing. Slams teach how to accept rejection."

In May 2019 **Charlie Nadler** and his wife, Hanna Weston (née Bergmann), moved to a retirement community in Highlands Ranch, Colo. She passed away in January 2021. Charlie and Hanna studied law at the University of Iowa and practiced together in Iowa and Colorado. She was the daughter of Anna and Gustav Bergmann, the youngest member of the Vienna Circle. Anna took Hanna from Vienna to England in 1938, and in 1939 all three went to the U.S. They were able to enter because Albert Einstein provided an affidavit to Gustav, who had done mathematical work for him.

Dennis Wilder GSAS'63 continues working in mental health housing and has taken up screenwriting. His first film, *Beauty in the Broken,* dealt with second chances for people suffering from mental health issues, homelessness and childhood sexual abuse. He is now immersed in a more supernatural drama/thriller — psychologically oriented but biblically based — *Hell Hath No Fury.* Both are available on streaming platforms.

"As a Ukrainian American," **Roman Kernitsky** writes, "I am troubled about the number of Americans and politicians who feel we should not be concerned about the Russian invasion of Ukraine and must not spend more on its behalf. These people either do not know, or conveniently forget, the Budapest Memorandum of 1994. It states: 'The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their commitment to Ukraine, in accordance with the principles of the CSCE Final Act, to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine.'

"If we weasel out of our pledge, no one will trust our word again. We made this commitment in exchange for Ukraine's giving up its nuclear weapons. Why would North Korea give up theirs if it sees that the United States and Russia betrayed Ukraine?"

In a recent letter to **Sandy Greenberg, Fred Modell** wrote: "A favorite moment of mine at Columbia was hearing you say, 'Hey Modell, is that you? Nobody else talks like that!' On so many occasions, I was with you; [your future wife,] Sue; **Artie [Garfunkel], Jerry [Speyer]**; and **Burt [Lehman],** and I remember them chiming, 'Sandy, you couldn't get that wrong! Of course, it's Modell.' But nothing prepared me for the uplifting experience of reading your book, *Hello Darkness, My Old Friend.* It is the greatest story of friendship I've heard. I'm honored to be your classmate."

In 1987, Fred and his wife, Vicki, established a foundation in memory of their son, Jeffrey, who died at 15 from complications of Primary Immunodeficiency. The Jeffrey Modell Foundation is devoted to early and precise diagnosis, treatment and ultimately cures through research, physician education, patient support, advocacy and screening of newborns. It funds 386 Jeffrey Modell Centers in 307 cities and 86 countries across six continents. A full-length documentary, *Do Something: The Jeffrey Modell Story,* is available on all digital platforms.

Anthony Valerio is in Italy, assisting his wife in her university program and creating a mixed media project with two former students.

Activist and Wesleyan professor **David Adams** continues to publish his blogs: decade-culture-of-peace.org/blog and cpnn-world.org/new.

Carl Jakobsson SEAS'63 and his wife, Estela, celebrated their 35th anniversary. Their children and grandchildren live in the U.S. and Philippines. Carl is active in the Bremerton, Wash., branch of the NAACP, deeply involved in the Filipino-American Association of Kitsap County and tutors in math.

1963

Paul Neshamkin
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Well, I hope you all enjoyed our 60th reunion at the beginning of June. I'm writing this in late March and am being optimistic that we had a great turnout. Your Reunion Committee worked hard to make it a success. Please send a note to share your experience, and for those of you who could not attend, please send a note to let your classmates know how you are doing!

Lee Lowenfish writes, "Copies of my fifth book, *Baseball's Endangered Species: Inside the Craft of Scouting By Those Who Lived It* (April 1), arrived at my doorstep a few days before writing this note. To open that box was an amazing feeling, seeing years of work and doubt turned into a handsome hardback with legendary scout Tom Greenwade on the cover."

For more about the book, read Lee's blog online: bit.ly/3AqjF3V.

Late this past spring, Lee presented a paper, *The Enduring Value of the Original Angels in the Outfield Movie of 1951,* at the Cooperstown Hall of Fame's Annual Symposium on Baseball and American Culture. During the week of the Fourth of July, he taught another class on the cultural significance of baseball at the Chautauqua Institution in southwestern New York State.

David Alpern writes: "I continue to enjoy turning out book reviews for the *East Hampton Star,* then arranging live or Zoom conversations with the authors. Hardest to stop laughing over was *Shy,* a snarky memoir by Mary Rodgers, the now-deceased daughter of Broadway songwriter Richard Rodgers CC 1923 (bit.ly/3mV09JO) and then chatting about it for local libraries with co-author Jesse Green, whose day (and night) job is chief theater critic at *The New York Times* (bit.ly/41TDOLm). Also looking forward to scheduled chats about *Against the Wind,* a monumental (in both senses) biography of the late Ted Kennedy by Neal Gabler (bit.ly/444ggW4) and Eric Alterman's *We Are Not One,* a history of ongoing debate over Israel — its politics and policies — among Americans, most notably among Jewish Americans (bit.ly/3oFZ4WA)."

Doug Anderson writes, "As they say in Palm Beach, where most of our friends are 10 or 15 years older than we are, let's limit our 'organ recital' to five minutes. That said, my medical adventure during the last two years has been focused on cardio and retina matters. I'm not sure what's worse, having a doctor tell you that he has to cut your chest open [to access] your heart or that he has to stick a needle in your eye, but here we are around 80, learning more about our bodies than we ever thought. And thank God for Medicare. Since our Class Lunches have become virtual (thanks, **Paul Neshamkin**) I've made 30-plus new friends. I was a commuter and most of my friends were members of my fraternity. This is terrific."

Gary Rachelefsky writes, "In October, **Peter Broido** and his wife, Eileen, and my wife, Gail, and I spent almost three weeks on an art tour of Belgium and Holland, concentrating on Brussels, Antwerp and Amsterdam. Peter was the tour guide and he did an outstanding job. I turned 80 on December 18. The whole family (Gail; three daughters; three sons-in-law; eight grandchildren and one significant other, i.e., totaling 17), celebrated in Mexico. What a great trip, and full of lots of memories. My highlight of the year was the UCLA

School of Medicine endowing a chair in allergy-immunology in my name. The $2 million was raised from 88 prior patients, professional associates and friends. The goal is to recruit a faculty member interested in the science and cure of food allergy."

Hank Davis writes, "[As I write this] I'm wrapping up and celebrating the publication of my book *Ducktails, Drive-Ins and Broken Hearts: An Unsweetened Look At 50s Music.* As some classmates know, I've been fortunate enough to combine a career in academic psychology with a continued interest in early rock 'n' roll that was in plain view during my Columbia years. The book collects about 45 years of album liner notes and magazine articles I've written. It includes the regular suspects like Elvis and Chuck Berry, but also delves deep into obscure figures who are no less typical of the era but represent stories that rarely get told. It's chock-full of rare photographs and like the title says, I had no desire to glamorize any of this."

Steve Barcan and his wife, Bettye BC'65, took their family to Italy in December to celebrate their 80th birthdays — 12 people including grandchildren, aged 14–23! They spent a few days in Rome and essentially filled a small hotel near the Coliseum. They then went to Cortona in Tuscany by train and stayed in apartments on a property that is the home of friends who own a walking tour company Steve and Bettye have traveled with a number of times. There they rented cars and drove to Sienna and the Hilltop Towns in Tuscany and to Assisi in Umbria, where they saw the Basilica of Saint Francis with its walls of Giotto frescoes. Everyone agreed that the food and wine were always amazing, and Steve reports two particularly meaningful times on the trip. One was their visit to Florence and particularly the Accademia Gallery. There Steve spent time with grandchildren viewing Michelangelo sculptures, especially of course the *David.* Second was the visit to Saint Peter's Basilica on the last day in Italy — they happened to arrive during a service with thousands of worshipers. Pope Francis gave the sermon — in Latin — and after the service left via a front door. Steve was 20 feet from the pope and has a picture to prove it!

Contact CCT

Update your address, email or phone; submit a Class Note, new book, photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

Sadly, I learned of the January 31, 2023, death of our friend **Jerry Dwyer,** a longtime attendee at our Thursday lunches at the Columbia Club and later at our regular Zoom get-togethers. He was a true Columbia man and I enjoyed his company along with his wife, Jane, children and grandchildren as a regular at Robert K. Kraft Field and Homecoming. He will be greatly missed.

David Saxe writes, "I wish to report the death Dr. **Kenneth Master,** a retired internist and pulmonary specialist who lived in Florida. He leaves his wife, three grown children and a number of grandchildren. Ken and I stayed friendly through the years, often enjoying a round of golf together."

Requiescat in pace, classmate.

By fall I hope we will be able to reconnect with our classmates at our second Thursday class lunches at the Columbia Club — stay tuned! Please email me if you are interested and I can confirm the next date. In any case, we will continue to meet virtually on Zoom every first and third Thursday at 12:30 p.m. EST. Let me know if you'd like to join us, and I'll send you an invite.

In the meantime, please let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next. Stay safe!

1964

Norman A. Olch
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I have a backlog of notes because the editor shortened the word count last year and *CCT* is no longer published four times a year. Trying to catch up (more next issue).

After the death of his younger brother Joshua in 1985, **Alyosha Zim** (formerly **Sheldon Zimerberg**) wrote a memoir that became a play, *Red Winged Blackbird,* and had a three-week run last year in "my hometown, Berkeley, and was very well received. Thank you, Eric Bentley and Robert Brustein GSAS'57. My wife, Liisa, a.k.a. 'Sparkleplenty,' with whom I've shared the last 35 years, has metastatic cancer. What a precious moment when she came to the opening along with friends from Europe and various parts of the country and the three children and five grandchildren we have between us.

"Yearly trips to Finland for 25 years to visit with Liisa's extended family of 35 or 40 have been a regular part of our existence. The Finns, with their blend of the very modern and the very traditional, are all they're reputed to be.

"I practice as a psychiatrist three days a week, recognizing that the best therapy for oneself is the deep satisfaction of helping others. For years, I've played a weekly backgammon match with Owen Renik '62, a psychoanalyst and friend since we met during Freshman Week at the College, 63 years ago! And I'm back on the golf course trying to get down to double bogey.

"I've given up handicapping horses after years of enjoyment, and even ownership. Still, one monster win in 1991 gives me the unusual opportunity to say I'm a winner for life.

"I'm in touch with **Rich Appelbaum,** who retired as a sociology professor at UC Santa Barbara; with **John Anfanger,** who also lives in Southern California; with **Steve Rodner,** whose expertise as an entertainment lawyer was generously given for my play; and with **Ron Toby.**

"I grieve the deaths of **Art Bernstein** and my very dear friend **Chris Trumbo.**

"If I wasn't nostalgic when I started writing this I certainly am now as I'm reminded how much my time at Columbia meant and is deeply embedded in my life."

In a sad note, Alyosha reported later that Liisa has died. Our deepest condolences to Alyosha and his family.

Miles Orvell writes from Philadelphia: "Somehow the years have slipped by without a note from me, so hello, dear classmates from another era. I came to Philadelphia in '69, after graduate school at Harvard, to teach English at Temple for a few years — or so I thought. Still here, still teaching. I married Gabriella Ibieta 35 years ago, and amazingly our two grown children and their families live near us, and we have, so far, one unbearably cute granddaughter.

"Many articles and books during these many years, and most recently, last year, a book on time and change, *Empire of Ruins: American Culture, Photography, and the Spectacle of Destruction* — not exactly the most cheerful subject, I admit, though more cheeringly the book won two prizes (Prose and Atheneum). I've been writing a little about my own version of the Columbia years, impossible to put into a note, but I realize now that I left out an important detail about Broadway landmarks that does bear mentioning here — not the fabled The West End, but the inspiring lunch place that told me that I could do it, too — Prexy's, The Hamburger with a College Education'!"

Richard Walker writes: "I am a semi-retired internist, pulmonologist and internist; retired Army Reserve lieutenant colonel; fly fisherman; model railroad hobbyist; and history buff in New Hampton, N.Y. I have been married for 52 years and have four sons and four grandchildren. I was a zoology and government major and spent about 800 hours commuting by subway from Brooklyn. I learned how to sleep while standing, keep up with our Contemporary Civilization readings, write papers and study underground. I continued my subterranean existence in the asbestos-laden tunnel system beneath the campus. As a result of my years of light deprivation I became a quasi-Morlock with vestigial eyes and hyperactive hearing. I was member of the Glee Club for four years and finally slept in the dorms for the first time at our 50th reunion.

"My major regret was that my immersion in preparing for my career prevented me from paying more attention to the inequities embedded in our society since its inception and recognizing that despite being a minority from Brooklyn, I was the beneficiary of not just my widowed mother's hard work and sacrifice, but also from being white and male in

America at midcentury. It is most ironic that as I have come to reject completely racism, sexism and the attacks on the New Deal view of American government, my bias toward meritocracy, the occasional use of 'Oriental' instead of 'Asian' and refusal to accept gender-neutral pronouns render me an unrepentant and irredeemable example of an old, white, entitled, Ivy League male to my children and grandchildren. Despite not quite being canceled, I am not unaware that, often, as I enter a conversation with them, a polite pause opens while I speak followed by a continuation of the conversation as if I had said nothing. Our plight is not at all helped by the inability of the 'Silent Generation' to govern our nation through its current unrest. It is a function of aging that the old find comfort in the value in which they were raised and youth sees mostly the legacy of imperfection and the imperative for change. *Sic transit gloria mundi.* Regards to all."

Ivan Weissman: "I loved the classic rock cruise I sailed on in late January. It was five days of compelling nostalgia: hit songs from The Moody Blues, The Zombies, The Lovin' Spoonful, Starship, The Little River Band, Alan Parsons, Dave Mason and many others. These were the real groups, not tribute bands. There were Q & A sessions. We learned from Moody Blues lead singer Justin Hayward that while 'Nights in White Satin' was a huge success, it doomed him to having someone ask him what the song meant every day for the rest of his life. Our ship made stops on a private island off Belize and a region in Costa Maya, Mexico. But it was all about the music, which ran from morning to late night."

David B. Levine: "The Class of 1964 lost one of its finest this past fall with the passing of **Dan Press.** Dan's many achievements and his contribution to Columbia were chronicled by **Gene Meyer** in this *CCT* Fall 2015 short profile: college.columbia.edu/cct/archive/fall15/alumni_profiles5.

"Along with other Columbia graduates, I have been lucky to participate in a study group that Dan and I started nine years ago, in which we have been rereading the Lit Hum curriculum and exploring more recent and related literature under the guidance of Professor Patricia Grieve, the Nancy and Jeffrey Marcus Professor in the Humanities, Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures. (Other participants regularly include **Steve Case, Barry Shapiro, Jack Ventura,** Charlie Schwartz '65, Marty Blank '65, Neil Silver '65 and Elliot Wolf '65.)

"In our discussions, Dan always cut right through to the core issues. He especially loved Shakespeare, advocating that we read at least one Shakespeare play every semester.

"The presence of the leader of the Council for Tribal Employment Rights, which Dan helped to organize, at Dan's funeral was just one example of the esteem in which Dan was held by the Native American community. And the emails to Dan's wife, Joyce, from Columbia members involved in the AlterNATIVE program validate the impact that he had on their lives.

"Every Columbia graduate should love Columbia and love justice like Dan Press. He was a shining example of the best of us." [Editor's note: See "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

Please go to this column online at college.columbia.edu/cct to read a note from **Steve Rock.**

1965

Leonard Pack
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I got a wonderful note, his first, I believe, from **Robert Argand.**

"I've been following [this] column in for years, and I've been constantly amazed at the distinguished achievements of so many classmates. My claim to fame at Columbia, at the time, was on stage with the Players, doing a few plays under the direction of David Rubinson '63, including *Guys and Dolls; Elsinore!,* which was a musical play of *Hamlet;* and *The Threepenny Opera;* as well as some plays with Barnard's Gilbert & Sullivan Society.

"I mention this because all of the above gave impetus to an important part of my life, which was acting. I remember being a pre-med at Columbia and therefore feeling somewhat intellectually scorned at the time. It seemed as though if one wanted to be a physician, one was thought of as just going to trade school. (Not that there's anything wrong with that!) My path, however, was greatly influenced by the courses I took that had nothing to do with science. I remember with great love sitting in the classes of Eric Bentley, Frederick W. Dupee, Charles Warren Everett GSAS 1932 and Lionel Trilling 1925, GSAS'38, all of whom opened my eyes to the world of literature, adventure and poetry.

"My career turned out to be that of an internist and emergency physician over 50 years, after attending SUNY Downstate in Brooklyn with another cast of extremely distinguished characters. Through the years I frequently found my literary education at least as important as my science education in treating patients. Molly Bloom's 22,000-word soliloquy in *Ulysses* cracked open the world with a wound that thankfully, would never heal. Dupee's class on T.S. Eliot, Gerard Manley Hopkins and Robert Frost revealed a sanctuary that I have always carried with me.

"I remember in my senior year sitting one night on Low Plaza and thinking of how great a gift I had been given to spend those years at the College. I had no idea how much better it was going to get. It was David Rubinson's acerbic humor that propelled me to continue acting even as I pursued my career as a physician (or should I say, as it pursued me?). My life has been one of great good fortune, allowing me to perform Mitzvot every day and essentially live on a spiritual path that was not evident at first. (I was one of the doctors helicoptered into Woodstock, but that is another story.) An emergency physician stares into death's eyes, and the gift is to carry the patient away from that confrontation. Life's other gift: Playing Prospero in *The Tempest* outdoors in a summer theater on the shore of Lake Tahoe: 'We are such stuff as dreams are made on.' Greetings from the California Coast."

Well, of course, I rose to the Woodstock bait and asked Robert to tell us that other story. He responded:

"Since you asked, I'd be delighted to talk about Woodstock, or at least what I think I saw or remember. I was hardly a rock 'n' roll maven at the time, and indeed my musical tastes ran to Big Band stuff from the '40s, since I had my own band throughout college and played numerous weddings and bar mitzvahs. And, oh yes, I also was a big fan of The Mamas and the Papas. My experience of Woodstock was as follows: I had thought of going, and then I heard all the reports on the radio about the nightmare traffic on the roads leading to it, so I decided to forgo that particular adventure. Nevertheless, on the Friday night, that being the second night, I got a call from my best friend in medical school saying that there was a sudden emergent lack of physicians at Woodstock, since they had not considered how many people would actually show up. He said all we had to do was go to LaGuardia Airport and we would be flown to Kingston and thence helicoptered into the festival. So he and I put on our white intern suits, stuck our stethoscopes in our pockets and drove to LaGuardia. Sure enough, there was a plane waiting for us and within about an hour we were on a helicopter airborne over this vast untamed crowd taking up the better part of Max Yasgur's farm. The helicopter did a swooping turn, and the door burst open. Had we not been buckled in, we would've joined the crowd much sooner than expected. It was a sight never to be forgotten.

"Moments later we landed in a field behind the main stage. We jumped out of the helicopter and walked to the so-called medical tent.

"There was no organization whatsoever. There were, however, a variety of afflicted youngsters being brought into the tent both on foot and on stretchers. Some had cuts and bruises, one young woman was giving birth, and my friend and I in our white suits and stethoscopes started to wander around. It was then that I became aware that in fact we were in the presence of the 'Hog Farm' (a hippie commune) from California, who were doing the lion's share of the emergency work because most of it dealt with people who were too high on LSD and marijuana, or utterly flattened by alcohol and downers of every variety. Most importantly, in the 48 hours we were there, there was no evidence of any altercations whatsoever. It was indeed a festival of peace, to which I can attest, having been at Ground Zero for observation of any evidence of malign behavior.

"When I finally got my bearings, I noticed that the Hog Farm, led by

Hugh Romney, otherwise known as Wavy Gravy; his beautiful wife, Bonnie; and their acolytes were all talking people down from LSD trips. At this point I might have heard of LSD, but I certainly had no experience of it. Therefore, I had no idea what I was seeing. I do remember one exceedingly distraught, very beautiful 16-year-old girl, naked, running into the tent screaming, 'I'm a human being! I'm a human being!' She was immediately taken aside by Wavy's wife, who took her hand and sat with her for the next 4–6 hours until she calmed down. It was fantastic.

"I also remember one boy who was brought in face down on a stretcher, whose face was covered with mud. That is to say, the mud was not only external. But rather he had mud in all his orifices, including his eyes, mouth, ears, and nose. I had never seen anything like it, and to this day I have never seen its equal. I've seen much worse, but never its equal. It did, however, give me a complete understanding of the phrase 'Here's mud in your eye!'

"Thanks for the opportunity to remember that part of my life and to share it with you."

Finally, sad news of the deaths of **Nicholas Pingitore,** a distinguished geoscientist and analytic geochemist; **Peter Herman** LAW'70, a prominent real estate lawyer who spent his entire career with the firm Milbank, including as head of its real estate department; and **David Sard,** a psychologist and playwright. More information can be found in "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.

And a recollection of **Richard Taruskin** by **Dan Waitzman** can be found in the online version of this column.

1966

Martin Lee
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[Editor's note: *CCT* welcomes **Martin "Marty" Lee** as the new class correspondent! Share your news and updates with Marty going forward at the email above or via the online Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos featuring at least two College alumni (or one for "Just Married!" as long as a member of the couple and featured) are welcome, too. Send those right to *CCT* via the online Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.]

Peter Crain, a psychiatrist, retired from his practice in Paramus, N.J., in 2014 and moved with his wife, Linda, to Boca Raton, Fla., where he teaches at Schmidt College of Medicine, Florida Atlantic University. He is doing research on couples' "chemistry" and works with "more than 116 couples in the United States and 88 in China." He hopes to make comparisons. If classmates would like to enroll, the site is cpresearchassociates.com. Peter has two daughters.

Neill Brownstein lives in Park City, Utah, and hopes to do one uninterrupted pushup for each year he has been alive, which he has done yearly since age 20. Neill is the proud parent of five children who live in various parts of the world, and 10 grandchildren aged 3–24. His first wife, Karen Osney Brownstein BC'66, passed away in 1989. He has been happily married to Linda Snyder Brownstein since 1994.

Mark Amsterdam expressed his gratitude to me for taking on the class correspondent role. It's my pleasure and an honor. We recalled a recent Homecoming when we discussed *The Iliad* during the game. Mark's son, Matt Amsterdam '10, LAW'13, recently opened a restaurant, Bird in Hand, on Broadway and West 146th Street.

Tommy Harrold is the proud parent of Dr. Elizabeth V. Ratchford, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Vascular Medicine. She specializes in Peripheral Artery Disease. Tommy works full time at the International Practice Group of Miller and Martin Law firm in Atlanta. He has traveled four million (that's right) miles during the last 30 years. His grandson is named Finn.

Neal Hurwitz is on LinkedIn as Neal H. Hurwitz and on Facebook as Neal Hugh Hurwitz. He offers commentary on a wide range of topics that unfortunately, space does not allow me to print.

Tsun-Nin Lee and I conversed recently. He is a physician living in San Francisco, a city he loves, and has taught more than 1,000 clinicians acupuncture. Tsun-Nin, however, does not perform acupuncture on patients. He has a physician son and a non-physician grandchild.

Bob Lautin is a full-time radiologist with whom I recently exchanged memories of our undergrad days. Bob lives and practices in Manhattan.

I work full time as an internist at South Beach (not Miami) Psychiatric Center on Staten Island, where I walk 2.5 miles per day as part of my duties on the 44 acres, which have wild turkeys and Canada geese. I have been married for 53 years to Annette Stowe Lee BC'71. We have three children and five grandchildren. My dad, Milton C. Lee CC 1926, went to school with Lou Gehrig.

Since much of the news deals with our children, I congratulate all of you as fine parents and even finer classmates. All of you deserve praise and admiration, and on behalf of our class, continued success, health and prosperity to all of our children and classmates. As the overused cliché goes: "The apple doesn't fall from the tree."

> *Neill Brownstein '66 hopes to do one uninterrupted pushup for each year he has been alive, which he has done yearly since age 20.*

If you are in touch with classmates, please ask them to send their contact info to *CCT* via the online webform college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info so we can be sure to include them in this column.

Enjoy, and please stay well.

1967

Albert Zonana
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We heard from several classmates for this issue.

Bob Stein submitted a series of brief notes: "master's at Harvard in education • taught briefly at P.S. 145 on 105th Street • headed to Seattle for more graduate school; dropped out after one week to become a full-time anti-war organizer • a dozen years as a radical activist / bookseller, including a visit to China during the Cultural Revolution • pivot at 33 to exploring the potential of new electronic media • spent a year writing a paper for Encyclopedia Britannica, *EB and the Intellectual Tools of the Future* • 18 months in the Atari Research Group working on the idea of an intelligent encyclopedia • founded The Criterion Collection, a continuing series of important classic and contemporary films • founded The Voyager Company, early multimedia publisher, where among other things, we published the first electronic book in 1992 • thanks to a significant five-year grant from The MacArthur Foundation, founded The Institute for the Future of the Book • currently heading up The Tapestry Project at the Internet Archive with the goal of making its vast collection more useful. • raised six wonderful kids (two biological) along the way • eight grandchildren and a brilliant lifetime companion • been inordinately lucky for all the privilege that's come my way."

Peter Schneider SOA'72: "**Bruce Kawin,** Janet Kaplan GS'91 and I have joined to create a small press, PB&J Books, to publish our work and, eventually, the work of others. Our first two books are *FBI 1970,* Bruce's first collection of short stories, and *In the Field of Unintended Consequences,* my second collection of poems (cover art by my wife, Linda Goldstein Schneider BC'67). Janet will follow with her as-yet-untitled fifth collection of poetry. Bruce is Emeritus Professor of English and Film Studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he taught for four decades. I am emeritus from my practice of 40 years as a clinical psychologist/psychoanalyst. Janet has recently retired from her position teaching in Hofstra's creative writing program. Linda and I live half the year in Vermont and half the year in Brooklyn. Our sons live with their respective families in Champaign, Ill., and Brookline, Mass. They are both academics. This is the first time I have written in; shoutout to old Columbia friends."

Walter Blanco: "I obtained a Ph.D. in English and American literature from Harvard and found employment as a professor of English at CUNY Lehman, from which I retired after 45 years. Unable to get the names on the entablature of Butler Library out of my head, I translated the histories of Herodotus and Thucydides for the *Norton Critical Editions* series. My marriage to my now-late wife, Ingrid Leopold GS'68, lasted for 55 years. Everything about me says 'lifer.' We had one child, Gabriella, who lives near Boston with her husband and three children. I now live in Brooklyn."

Bruce Burgeson: "I have been living on City Island in The Bronx for seven years. I live in a condo and have beautiful water views. During the pandemic I decided to relearn Spanish and am continuing this pursuit. I have lunch during the week at our local senior center and walk daily along the boardwalk at Orchard Beach. I also enjoy reading, and watching shows on PBS. I started taking virtual adult learning courses during the pandemic and continue to do so."

Aristos Christou: "I earned a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Penn in 1971. In 1969, I married Kaliroe Thomas BC'68. Together we raised a son and daughter and now have five grandchildren. We have lived in Alexandria, Va., since 1974. After a 20-year career at the Naval Research Laboratory, I became professor of materials science at the University of Maryland, College Park and head of the materials science department for 10 years. I still have an active research program in microelectronics materials and have published six books and more than 300 journal articles. My plan is to retire and become emeritus in 2025 and just travel with my wife and enjoy the world."

Stuart Schlang retired from the finance world and reports he is "enjoying high-end catering."

Richard Lorber: "Through the years, while reading this column, I'm always surprised how few of those reporting I knew. I was a commuter from the projects working my way through Columbia with scholarships and jobs. Those of you I was close to then remain important to me, even if not in my life now. No day passes when I don't think of Meyer Schapiro CC 1924, GSAS 1935, an intellectual beacon my whole life.

"On the heels of graduation, at 20, on a lark, I co-wrote *The Gap* with my uncle in 1967. It became a bestseller after *LIFE* picked it up and pasted my face on the cover in 1968. I found myself juggling scholarship and book promo schedules and hanging at The West End pondering a literary future and the politics of the day. In 1968, while occupying Fayerweather and getting clobbered in campus busts, I was also on a TV tour, trying to reconcile in my head book promotions with SDS.

"After a few academic adventures, including a doctorate at Teachers College, I decided the academic track was not to be my path about the time it was decided for me. The world of new media was emerging, and I wanted in as a founding citizen. By the early '80s I had started a company, Fox Lorber, and spent the next couple of decades figuring out a business.

"So how did Columbia get me to now? A crucial Freshman Week encounter in 1963 forged an enduring friendship with that same year's beanie wearer **Don Krim** LAW'71, an outstanding human being. I eventually acquired his brilliant arthouse film distribution company, Kino International, which became Kino Lorber in 2009. We ran it as partners until his untimely death a couple of years later. Getting to meet him was a major gift from Columbia.

"These days friends from the College remain few: my oldest and closest, writer Francis Levy '69, and also Paul Auster '69, GSAS'70, with whom I'm working on film projects.

"Fast forward 60 years, here I am, at 76, still a beginner, loving the game. Kino Lorber is the leading independent arthouse film distributor in North America with 50 employees, releasing 40 films a year to arthouse theaters everywhere, a library of more than 4,000 film gems, many award winners, available soon on our own subscription service.

"The love of my life, Dovie F. Wingard, and I have been married 40 years. Our daughter, Lola, is expecting her first. I'm also a painter and spend lots of time in Paris and Cannes. We happily live in NYC and on Fire Island, where I never have to drive a car. From the 52nd floor of our downtown glass tower, helicopter views of skyline and rivers stretch to the Atlantic … and I can see out my window the projects in Rockaway where my commute to Columbia began.

"Roar, Lion, Roar."

Be well, all of you, and do write. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1968

Arthur Spector
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Greetings from Miami Beach. I heard from **Fred Smith,** who still resides in Portugal and enjoys the beach and world there.

I received a long note from **Peter Janovsky,** who sent in a piece for the reunion book. He has retired from his long journey as a teacher, principal and then lawyer dealing with commercial litigation and bankruptcy. His twin daughters are in college. Peter has been focused on non-partisan groups to promote high school voter registration and active participation in our world.

Sounds like a great way to spend time!

Jon Kotch was deeply concerned with the status of Columbia's Marching Band (Peter was too). Things are going in a good direction, and Jon sounds spirited and energetic. One of our renowned professors, Jon is the public health chair at UNC.

Larry Susskind is still teaching at MIT; I think for 52 years or so. Amazing! He recently co-authored a book, *Judicial Dispute Resolution: New Rules for Judges in Ensuring Justice,* which was due to be out in mid-May.

Art Kaufman LAW'71 is still teaching at the Law School, 20 years or so. He has gone to Columbia women's basketball games with his grandkids and like me is a big fan of the coach and team.

Buzz Zucker, our resident expert on Broadway and Off-Broadway shows, recently went to 11 shows in one week. When I spoke to him I told him he needs to write a book.

Heard from **Ted Spiro,** who was planning to attend our 55th reunion. Ted, I believe we met way back when.

Bob Nordberg retired from a long career as a surgeon after Tufts University School of Medicine and, a long time ago, a residency at Albert Einstein in the Bronx, including rotations at "Fort Apache." He sounds great. He spent many years in Western Pennsylvania and then Canton/Potsdam, N.Y. His children went to St. Laurence, a wonderful school, and is working on the grandkids for Columbia. Bob likes the country and the fresh air there. He knows I grew up in Arlington, Mass., then the number 1 hockey town in Massachusetts and all of New England. And his family is related to my high school buddy, as it turns out.

I heard, too, from **Michael Haggiag,** a talented artist, who was planning to attend reunion (he will be in London for a couple of months and will have an opening there but will make it!). He reports that two of his photo-art installations were accepted at Cotswold Sculpture Park in the United Kingdom. That's great news! I have become so interested in art during the last few decades. I was hoping to see Michael in Miami at Art Basel along with **Tom Sanford,** who has a son who is a talented artist.

I was visited by **Paul de Bary** and his wife, Stefana, in Miami Beach. We went to a Wagner opera performed by the New World Symphony. Wagner was a bad human being and an amazing composer. We were joined by Peter Hiebert '71, who lives in Miami Beach. He and his wife, Elaine, are special neighbors. Elaine grew up in Miami Beach and went to Princeton … imperfect judgement, it seems.

I received a long note from **James Charney** (known at the College as **Jim Schwartz;** Charney was the original family name). His first book, *Madness at the Movies,* is out. It's based on a course he taught at Yale for 10 years. Jim has been on the faculty of the Yale Department of Psychiatry for more than 40 years. He and his wife, Diane, live in Italy eight months a year and in New Haven for the remaining time, where Jim teaches at the Yale School of Medicine.

Jim's son Noah Charney, a much-published author, and his wife live with two kids in Slovenia — a seven-hour drive from their home in Italy.

"In my book I talk about how extraordinary my Columbia education was," Jim writes. "The Great Books classes; the first introductory course in film, which started my love of movies; seminars with Kenneth Koch and Lionel Trilling CC 1925, GSAS'38 and Moses Hadas. God, were we lucky."

Jim's note was longer; I edited it with limited skills. We all should visit Jim in Italy. My mom's family started in the 1450s in Padua — the grand rabbi. I suppose I could move back.

I also heard from **Robert Brandt**, who was on his way shortly to New Zealand; he sounded great and was returning from his place in Vermont.

I have been writing about the women's basketball team for several years. Congratulations to the team and coach Megan Griffith '07 for winning the Ivy League championship this year and going to the Women's National Invitation Tournament! The Classes of 1968 and 2023 both have winning basketball teams!

Stay well, everyone. I hoped to see you at reunion.

1969

Nathaniel Wander
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Francis Levy reports: "I've published three novels: *Erotomania: A Romance; Seven Days in Rio;* and *Tombstone: Not a Western.* A series of parables illustrated by Hallie Cohen, *The Kafka Studies Department,* will appear late this year.

"About 31 years ago I began studying traditional Japanese karate. I'm now a Godan, or fifth-degree black belt. Karate involves a rather broad syllabus, not just kicking, punching and fighting. To advance, you attend (or are invited to) promotions that can go on for days. It's demanding physically and emotionally, but that's the point."

Jonathan Schiller LAW'73 was recorded comparing the 2023 women's Ivy League basketball championship team to the 1968 men's Ivy League championship team, on which he'd played (online at bit.ly/43vN2Pn). He observed that both teams had been taught "New York toughness" by coaches Megan Griffith '07 and Jack Rohan '53, respectively. "Defense defines this Columbia team of '23, and this is what defined the team of '68."

Phil Manfield writes: "I have been a psychotherapist since 1976, and six years ago, about when I started wondering if it might be getting near the time to retire or severely cut back, I happened upon a rapid and virtually painless technique to treat trauma. I called it the Flash Technique, and have been researching and writing about it since (flashtechnique.com/wp). It is being used around the world, particularly in Turkey and Ukraine, and there are currently 12 peer-reviewed papers published about it. So much for retirement."

David Sokal notes, "Despite getting older (74), with various aches and back problems, I am getting more active with Citizens' Climate Lobby. We are lobbying the North Carolina legislature to approve a state building code that includes better insulation in new construction. And check out methaneaction.org if you want to hear some encouraging climate news."

Bill Sleeper, in his 12th year of retirement as president of Georgia-Pacific Professional, NA's 'away-from-home' business, writes: "This last year has been eventful. My wife, Margie (née Rosa) BC'69, and I celebrated the marriage of our granddaughter, whose father is our oldest son, Bill Sleeper Jr. SEAS'91. The wedding was held in Texas last July, and we were joined by my fraternity brother — and best man at our wedding — **Rick Prouser** and his wife, Nancy. One month earlier we were blessed with grandchild number nine, so they now run the age gamut from infant to 25. Our house was full (and loud!) when our children and their families joined us in Roswell, Ga., for the holidays, as they do every year. What a wonderful time!"

Bill adds "It is great to be able to travel again, and we celebrated our 55th anniversary with a cruise from Los Angeles to Miami through the Panama Canal. In Guatemala, we visited the extensive Mayan ruins at Iximche, built starting in 1524. I had no idea the Mayans were still building so recently. Now to plan some more trips!"

Irving Ruderman, recovering from shoulder surgery at the time of this writing, reported that a group of nine classmates reunited "on November 4 for a first get-together of any sort like this. We had lunch at the Bryant Park Grill."

Attendees were **Rich Rapaport, Bill Giusti, Rod Reef SEAS'69, Steve Valenstein, Nick Garaufis, John Fogarty, Irv Ruderman, Dick Menaker** and **Jerry Nadler.**

An enthusiastic supporter of Columbia Athletics, Irv has been attending the games of the defending men's Ivy League baseball champions and the women's Ivy League basketball champions. He was excited to see the women beat Syracuse in the Super 16 and Harvard in the Elite Eight, and was looking forward to their play in the Final Four. Irv also visited "the tennis center at Baker Athletics Complex, and it looks great. It's right on the river with great views."

"Yesterday was Purim," Irv added, "and I chanted the Megillah in my synagogue at one of the services before about 150 people. I have done it every year since we were undergraduates, and in the special style that I have been known for (different voices, numerous special melodies, etc.)." Irv also noted that he had been "guest cantor at two Upper West Side synagogues recently."

Rick Winston writes: "My new book, *Save Me a Seat! A Life With Movies*, will be out this summer. Mainly a history of the Savoy Theater, the one-screen cinema I founded and managed for many years here in Montpelier, Vt., it's also a story of my lifelong passion for films, with a stop at Columbia along the way. I write about trips to the Thalia and the New Yorker, and also showings at McMillin Theater and Casa Italiana. You can order a copy online at bit.ly/3zWfKLV."

John T. Herbert VPS'73 observes that it is "nice to see a 'Bollinger Effect' this year, as many senior University positions have been filled with minority faculty. Also, a reunion of the Black Students in Hamilton Hall should be most enlightening for students and alums."

Alan Senauke "never imagined I would be getting a Columbia paycheck, but this semester I am filling in for a friend, teaching a course on engaged Buddhism at Union Theological Seminary as an adjunct professor." He is "very much enjoying the challenge and the diversity of students, and expanding my understanding of a field I have been living in for 35 years.

"Two years ago, with the death of my old Zen teacher Sojun Weitsman Roshi, I was invited to become abbot of Berkeley Zen Center, where I have lived for nearly 40 years. I am honored to take this position, but confess that it is hard getting a full-time job at the age of 74, when most of my friends are retiring. Still, I take it day by day.

"In early March, **Hilton Obenzinger,** I and other friends organized a long-delayed memorial poetry reading at the Beat Museum in San Francisco for our late comrade Les Gottesman '68, GSAS'69 (go online to bit.ly/3UB1IIU). Les died in October 2019, but he is very much alive in our hearts and mind. His poetry continues to surprise and baffle us. Hilton, Bill Crossman (a poet, jazz pianist and writing teacher) and I are working on a volume of Les' collected poems, which we hope will be published by the end of the year. Stay tuned.

"I am pleased to announce the Shambhala has published my latest book, *Turning Words—Transformative Encounters with Buddhist Teachers.*"

Nathaniel Wander continues to paint and slowly, slowly, to sell some work. He recently began posting some of his best pieces at fineartamerica.com/profiles/nathaniel-wander.

"My father," he writes, "who ended up a house painter and paperhanger in the United States, had some talent and desperately wanted to be a fine artist. He ran away twice to Warsaw from his Orthodox Jewish family's Ukrainian/Polish border *shtetl,* and twice was hauled back by his father's *shtarkers* — the 'strongmen' of his father's rabbinical court. Despite regularly repeated surprise at seeing my father looking out from my own mirror, I never imagined I would end up following in the footsteps he never got to take."

Please send me your latest news, and I'll include it in a future issue. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1970

Leo Kailas
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I am still at this after more years than I can remember and must admit that getting and reporting the news of my Class of 1970 classmates has its own rewards. Hearing about your successes and accomplishments enables me to vicariously share your joy.

First, my friend Professor **David Lehman** GSAS'78 wrote an essay on censorship of the great literary classics that I highly recommend: online at bit.ly/3zTJVmU. David is also the editor of *Best American Poetry* and periodically writes essays that I thoroughly enjoy. His essay on *The Wild Bunch,* Sam Peckinpah's ode to a dying breed, is exceptional — he captures everything I thought about the movie in such an amazingly articulate style!

> *Jeff Sheehan '70 is currently in Phnom Penh, where he is a volunteer teacher for the Cambodian Children's Fund.*

My Bronx Science classmate **Michael Klekman** wrote: "I was so pleased to see that you included the best parts of my note to you in the Winter/Spring 2023 issue. Thank you."

You should all know that I really do try to publish all the notes that I receive but occasionally must condense the text.

Jeff Sheehan, after commenting on my visit to Paros last summer — he was there in 1967 — reported the following: "I am currently in Phnom Penh, where I am a volunteer teacher for the Cambodian Children's Fund. If you are curious about how this happened and what I am encountering, I have been blogging on my personal website, jeffreyasheehan.com. On March 18, I marked an obscure but important anniversary with a blog that has relevance to Cambodia and to the Class of 1970. For your reference, I attached a pre-release copy of that blog. Although my readership is growing through my postings on LinkedIn and Facebook, I wonder if there is any way to make this blog available to all the members of the class. When you read the final paragraph, you will learn why it is of direct relevance to something that all of us did in May 1970."

Jeff's blog is available on the website referred to in his note.

My old friend **Dan Feldman,** whom I discovered grew up in Far Rockaway (when I was "summering" in Rockaway Beach), sent me his news: "On the weekend of October 15, Far Rockaway H.S. (the late; in 2007 its site became the campus for several 'learning communities') celebrated its 125th anniversary with an all-classes reunion. That Sunday morning, October 16, those of us who had been editors of *Chat,* our student newspaper, joined in our own mini-reunion. Three of us who graduated from high school in 1966, **Marty Newhouse** GSAS'79; Howard Lemberg '69, our editor-in-chief, who started with us at Columbia but earned a chemistry B.A. in three years; and I had an absolutely delightful time catching up and exchanging memories. Marty and I stay in touch fairly regularly, but we hadn't seen Howard — who had brilliant careers both in chemistry and in systems engineering — in decades, so it was an extraordinary pleasure for the three of us to get together. By the way, FRHS had its own interesting history, graduating physics Nobel prize-winner Richard Feynman in 1935; Nancy Lieberman in 1976, perhaps the greatest female basketball player in history; and Bernie Madoff, not so good, in 1956."

Ralph Bradburd GSAS'76 writes: "After 47 wonderful years as an economics professor at Williams College, I retired in June. I plan to spend more time with my wife, Zelda BC'70, and my children and grandchildren, and to make a dent in the pile of books and magazines that have been accumulating in my 'read when I get a chance' pile. I will no doubt continue to spend a great many hours of the day and night worrying about the current and future state of the world."

My freshman week suitemate Professor **Sam Estreicher** LAW'75 writes: "After my wife, Aleta (Bryn Mawr '70), passed after 51 years of blissful marriage, the heavenly authorities allowed me a second soulmate in one lifetime, Abby F. Burman (Yale '87). We were married January 29 at (forgive me) the Yale Club in the city. I teach at NYU Law and run its Center for Labor and Employment Law and Institute of Judicial Administration."

During Freshman Week, Sam engaged in a spirited and fascinating debate with a suitemate about one of the classics on our summer reading list. It did not surprise me that Sam became a distinguished professor of labor and employment law at NYU.

Ralph Allemano reports: "Life seems to roll on quite uneventfully for me. I'm enjoying retirement, still living in rural Wales. I'm a late starter as a grandparent: My first grandchild, Margot, was born just a bit more than a year and a half ago. I was scheduled to head to London in April for her first birthday party!"

Finally, Professor Bill Stark '69, emeritus professor of biology at Saint Louis University, asked me: "Could you please convey my greetings to **Richard Yospin**?"

Richard, Bill can be reached at starkws@mac.com.

1971

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Stephen Baxter TC'93 states he was the only doctoral student in both science and art education at Teachers College. He entered the College to become an engineer, but the atmosphere of campus in the late '60s turned his trajectory toward the arts. He exhibited his pottery at the Christmas craft fair at Wollman Auditorium in the 1980s and created sculpture works as well. Stephen was a co-principal investigator in a research project that generated two patents. He is an expert in the field of pyramidal cement and its uses.

Peter Hiebert reports that **Greg Wyatt** was to be awarded an honorary doctorate in the humanities this past May from Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts. Greg is known and respected for his sculptures, which stand on sites around the world. He is the sculptor-in-residence at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine in New York City.

Rocco Commisso SEAS '71, BUS'75 was profiled on CBS' classic news broadcast *60 Minutes* on March 19. The captain of our 1970 soccer team, which reached the NCAA tournament, looked well as he was interviewed concerning his involvement with soccer. He spoke of his lifelong passion to be involved specifically in Italian soccer (football). Rocco has been the owner and chairman of the New York Cosmos soccer team since 2017. On *60 Minutes,* he was profiled as the owner of the Italian Series A football club ACF Fiorentina. However, the interviewer failed to note that he has also won The Ellis Island Medal of Honor. The Ellis Island Honors Society tries to recognize those individuals who share their wealth of knowledge, indomitable courage, boundless compassion, unique talents and selfless generosity with the less fortunate while acknowledging their debt to their ethnic heritage. They uphold the ideals and spirit on which America was founded. Medalists include U.S. Presidents, world leaders, Nobel Prize winners and leaders in other aspects of our great democracy, such as the arts and sciences.

I met with Dr. **Tony Kestler** this past spring for lunch, as he lives near me in central Jersey. He was quite proud of the Columbia fencing team winning back the Irving Martin Preschel Trophy from NYU this year. Tony remains very involved with fencing. He teaches it at a local academy and gives lectures in the regional school systems. We discussed the fencing team from the late '60s, which included **Mark Haselkorn, Harris Knecht SEAS'71** and Bruce Soriano '72. Those teams were very successful in the NCAA tournaments.

On a personal note, I self-published the second in the Sam-Cat murder series, *One More Dead Doll,* in February. My pen name is L.A. Preschel.

This column cannot exist without your help. Let classmates know where your life's path has led you. We have many people who live unique lives, interesting lives and lives that have changed the world as we know it. Your classmates and friends from college would be glad to learn about yours. Send your brief biography to me at the email address at the top of the column. We would love to know how you have changed the world. Thank you.

1972

Paul Appelbaum
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Steve Migden asks, "So, what have I been doing these past 50 [or so] years? Quick recap, for those who might be interested: After graduation, I worked for Columbia University Press as an associate editor on the *New Columbia Encyclopedia.* I then got a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from NYU and began a rewarding career as a clinician, supervisor and administrator. I taught and supervised in the doctoral program at St. John's and the post-doctoral program at Adelphi's Derner Institute for Advanced Psychological Studies; for about 25 years, I also directed the psychology internship program at MercyFirst, a social welfare nonprofit serving disenfranchised kids and their families. Quite coincidentally, one of my colleagues at MercyFirst was **Sandy Landsman**, also a psychologist at the agency.

"Here and there, I stole some time to publish, mainly on the intersection of neurodevelopmental disorders and emotional problems, in journals such as *Annals of Dyslexia* and *Psychoanalytic Study of the Child.* About 15 years ago, I pivoted somewhat and entered a related field, developing a practice as a therapeutic placement consultant. Again, lots of rewarding work, including writing the 'Best Practices' document for my professional organization (Independent Educational Consultants Association) and, last May, just before retirement, receiving the Distinguished Service Award at the organization's semi-annual conference. Along the way, I had two sons, a divorce, two stepsons and, for the last 22 years, an extremely rewarding second marriage.

"I've kept in contact with a few classmates, most consistently **Rich Halperin** and **John Schwartzberg,** each of whom I consider among my dearest friends. In September, I attended the memorial service at NYU Medical Center for another old friend, **Mariano Rey** (who had a wonderful career in academic medicine); there, I had a chance to reconnect with **Emilio Carrillo,** and I enjoyed a leisurely lunch with him and **Rich Halperin.**

"Now my retirement has begun, and I'm looking forward to devoting more time to my non-remunerative interests, including learning biblical Hebrew; hanging out with my dog, Jack; tending my vegetable garden; trying to do some bird watching (very difficult for someone with eyesight as bad as mine); enjoying time with family; and continuing to do the little I still can to make the world just a little less troublesome for future generations."

I have the sad duty of reporting that **Jim Sabella** SEAS'73, LAW'76 passed away from cancer on March 11. Jim and I were partners on the debate team at Columbia, and before that at Stuyvesant H.S. He was enrolled in the joint program between the College and SEAS, followed by the Law School. Given his outstanding grades, Jim could have gone to law school anywhere, but I remember him telling me that he never saw the point of leaving New York. And he never did. Jim spent his career with a series of major New York law firms, finishing up at Grant & Eisenhofer before retirement in 2018. He and his wife, Julia, had three children and three grandchildren. I will miss him." [Editor's note: See "Obituaries," online at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

1973

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Not much response, despite two follow-ups. Such is scribe life.

Michael Vitiello retired in November 2022 from the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Washington after more than 40 years. He was known for brilliance, good humor, great feedback, and an affinity for shorts and Hawaiian shirts. He began there in 1980, collaborating on sleep research; he became an expert in sleep, circadian rhythms and sleep disorders, and is the author of nearly 700 scientific articles and other academic pieces. Michael is the editor-in-chief of *Sleep Medicine Reviews,* and plans to continue in that role. He and his wife, Mary Baroni, intend to catch up on years of missed travel.

On a backward-looking note, our 50th(!) reunion took place June 1–3. Please send comments to me at the email at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note, as I will not have been there. Please send photos directly to *CCT* using the online webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top of that form before submitting. Let's show all our no-shows what they missed!

For five years, Steve Migden '72 directed the psychology internship program at MercyFirst, a nonprofit serving disenfranchised kids and their families.

Can't print what I've never had.

Be fruitful, troupe. Hasta.

1974

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We've experienced milestones during the last 50 years. First may have been leaving the comforts of home to come to Columbia. A short four years later we had to leave our friends when we moved on to professional school, graduate school or a real job. Somewhere along the line most of us left solo life and got married and had kids. Now many of us are facing leaving our professions (and identities?) for a new life in retirement. Coming in a year is another milestone: your 50th College reunion (early June 2024; exact dates not yet set). Like the other milestones, it is something to celebrate with your friends of half a century.

You may have seen **Abbe Lowell** LAW'77 (living in a Washington, D.C., suburb) on the news. Following his role guiding (Republican) Jared Kushner, he is now the lawyer guiding (Democrat) Hunter Biden in the criminal investigation into what happened to Hunter's laptop after it was abandoned at a Delaware computer repair shop in 2019.

Last January, **Mark Rantala** (living in Cleveland) wrote to catch us up on his busy life. He recently started his 14th season of his podcast, Baseball PhD, and recorded the 665th episode. He tells us he was also recognized by the Parkside Masonic Lodge for 50 years in the fraternity. Mark continues both his consulting practice (Economic Development Opportunity Advisors), which supports port authorities in their economic development initiatives and is still doing commercial real estate work in Cleveland. Mark and his wife, Mary Anne, have been married 31 years and have two daughters.

Sorting through some unopened mail, I saw a notice from Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan that the Mark Lebwohl Center for Neuroinflammation and Sensation opened in January 2022. It brings together experts in skin biology, immunology and neuroscience to uncover novel treatments for chronic itch and other sensory disorders. The center honors Dr. **Mark Lebwohl** for his role as past department chair and current dean of clinical therapeutics and is one of the first centers of its kind on the East Coast.

We learned that the "quick to pack" **Patrick Dowd** has moved from the greater Portland, Ore., area to the greater Portland, Maine, area. We now have three classmates there, as Dr. **Steve Blumenthal** and **Bob Adler** also call this place home.

It is hard to follow the careers of **Will Willis** BUS'76 (who lives in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.). He tells us he has gone from managing the operations of Sun Chips to tampons to Chinet Paper Plates to Jeno's Frozen Foods to Mennen to Dole. Now he tells us that after three years commuting to Dole in California, he retired on a Friday. The following Monday he took a president's position at Agilis Engineering, which has 300 engineers designing jet engines for the DoD. Will says, "I guess I just like to be intellectually challenged." He adds, "This is definitely my last stop!"

An email came in from **Garrett Johnson** (living in Los Angeles) saying, "While I enjoy reading about the retirement or pending retirements of our classmates, I don't see that on the horizon for myself in near future. My entertainment law practice keeps me invigorated and I continue to enjoy the camaraderie, collegiality and intellectual challenge of working and colleagues." Garrett tells us that his tenure as president of The California Copyright Conference has come to a close, but he has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles chapter of the Association of Independent Music Publishers. He says, "This group provides a unique medium for those in the music industry to discuss with their colleagues various issues of the ever-changing music business."

Among our not-even-semi-retired classmates, Dr. **Steve DeCherney** PH'98 stands out. He is working half time at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill teaching endocrine fellows and internal medicine residents. He also started a company (Helios Clinical Research) with backing from Grant Avenue Capital (where he is an operating partner). Steve continues as a board member and chief medical officer of KNOW Bio and is an executive advisor of several other startups. He still manages to find time to serve on the board of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights. Steve adds, "So I'm certainly not retired yet."

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of **Bill Meehan** (a resident of Palo Alto, Calif., and New York City) in January. He graduated from the College with a B.A. in comparative literature. Bill retired from a 30-year career at the consulting firm McKinsey & Co. in 2008. He had held many senior roles, including chair of the firm's West Coast practice and managing director of its San Francisco office. After retirement he joined the Stanford Graduate School of Business as a professor focused on strategic leadership and nonprofits. Bill was involved with a wide-ranging list of nonprofits (from the United Way to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival). A life well lived. [Editor's note: See "Obituaries" at college.columbia.edu/cct.]

There you have it. Classmates involved in music, biotech, politics and more. While retirement must have started for many, all I hear about is continued activity. See you at our 50th reunion! (Not written by ChatGPT!)

1975

Robert Katz
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Fellow members of the Class of 1975, herewith my first installment as your class correspondent.

Doug Letter is alive and well in Washington, D.C., where he practices law. In 1978, immediately after law school at UC Berkeley, Doug joined the Department of Justice (DOJ), where he was a career public servant for 40 years. He handled civil and criminal appellate litigation, including appearances in the U.S. Supreme Court. Doug represented the United States in many important cases, specializing in national security and various constitutional issues. He was presented with awards by the President and Attorney General, among others. Doug also served in the Clinton administration White House Counsel Office as an associate counsel to the President, and as senior counselor to Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76.

Doug left the DOJ, and in 2019 he was appointed by Speaker Nancy Pelosi as the general counsel of the House of Representatives, where he spent four years advising House leaders and litigating numerous cases for the House, appearing before the U.S. Supreme Court three times. Following that, in early 2022, Doug became the chief legal officer of Brady United Against Gun Violence.

Doug is married, has two daughters living nearby and is an extremely happy grandfather of two. You can catch him on the tennis or basketball courts, or on long bike rides with his friends.

Robert Sclafani GSAS'81 has been retired from the University of Colorado School of Medicine for about five years and still enjoys it. He keeps busy with skiing, fishing and golf. He started ukulele lessons, which he says is amazing, "as I never played an instrument." (Perhaps his background from Music Hum will help.) He also consults for the craft brewing industry. Bob's latest news is that he was to become a grandfather this past March, courtesy of his son, Michael, who is in IT. His daughter, Maria, is an assistant professor of library science at Wichita State University.

Celebrating at V&T on March 26 after the Lions women's basketball team victory at the Women's National Invitation Tournament against Harvard were, left to right: Lisa Davis BC'76, Doron Gopstein '63, Cindy Cohen, Russ Behrman '77, Ken Howitt '76, Tom Mariam '78, Fred Rosenstein '78 and Liz Rosenstein.

Bob stays connected with **José Cheo Díaz** on LinkedIn and enjoyed reading his book, *From the Streets of New York City.* He and José were roommates in Carman with **Edwin Vega** and **Henry Woo.** Bob also occasionally hears from Fred Bremer '74, **Rich Eichler, Chet Pielock, Ray Falcon** and **Steve Messina SEAS'75.** Steve and Ray went to Archbishop Molloy H.S. with him.

Michael Dulberg lives in Phoenix. He writes, "For the 10th year in a row, 2014–23 editions, I've been recognized by *Best Lawyers* as one of the top attorneys in America for Construction Law and Construction Litigation. I am a partner in the Phoenix law firm of Burch & Cracchiolo."

Robert Schneider retired from the practice of law in 2019. He and his wife, Regina Mullahy BC'75, live in Rockville Centre and enjoy visits to their three grandchildren in Houston and two grandchildren in New Jersey.

Sadly, we have recently lost several of our classmates: **Howard Blatt,** whom many of us remember as sports editor at *Spectator* (college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/winterspring-2023/article/obituaries); Rev. **C.J. "John" McCloskey III,** a Catholic priest; and **Guy Golembiewski,** who was in my first-semester freshman-year Contemporary Civilization class. Obituaries for John and Guy are in this issue's "Obituaries," found at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Please let me hear more news from more of you. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1976

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Inspired by the telecast of Joni Mitchell receiving the 2023 Library of Congress Gershwin Award, I have the *For the Roses* album playing on the turntable. Not that inspiration is needed after the incredible season that the women's basketball team had under Head Coach Megan Griffith '07 and her staff's guidance. As a TrueBlue season ticketholder, I will conclude this column with reflections on that team for the ages!

Had a few updates through emails, phone calls and texts. **Toomas Hendrick Ilves** reached out with links to incredible columns about the world situation from his vantage point in Estonia. Search his name and you will find some very insightful thoughts that have appeared in *The Washington Post.*

Gordon Kit had another successful Kit Noir Film Festival on the first weekend of March. The theme was “Seventy Years of Women in Crime.” The events were not only terrific films that explored women’s contributions to film noir from behind the camera, but also panels and discussions about the roles of women as producers, screenwriters, novelists and in one instance, director. No firm plans are in place for 2024, but I will get the word out as soon as it is available.

Clyde Moneyhun (one of my predecessors as class correspondent) checked in: “I’ve been a busy literary translator this last year. In March 2022, I published *El volcà/The Volcano,* the complete poetry of Anna Dodas i Noguer, a Catalan-language poet who died far too young in 1986. Then in January of this year I published *Bruixa de dol/Witch in Mourning,* by María-Marcè Marçal, a giant of 20th-century Catalan literature. This 1979 book is her masterwork. A sabbatical in spring of last year freed me up to launch the book and do readings in Barcelona, London and Edinburgh. Retirement from teaching looms in the near distance, but the translation work never ends.”

Steve Goldstein GSAS’58, Columbia’s Higgins Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences, was one of two 2022 recipients of the Great Teacher Award by the Society of Columbia Graduates. Steve says, “I was really pleased that my kids, Emily Cooperdock ’11, an assistant professor of earth sciences at USC who is moving to Brown next summer, and who came with my granddaughter Razia, and Sandra Goldstein Lehnert ’19, in the English literature Ph.D. program at the CUNY Graduate Center, came back to campus to attend the ceremony during reunion.

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“One of my favorite activities is to foster a new appreciation for the world around us, and so if anyone who reads this would like to spend a couple of hours learning to ‘read the rocks’ and see how they reflect the history of NYC, they should get in touch, as I’m happy to take small groups on the same Central Park field trip that I take my students.”

Sounds to me like a 50th-reunion activity!

The group that was centered first on Two Livingston and then in an apartment on Morningside Drive is constantly sending emails: **Nick De Monico, Terry Corrigan, Richard Cohen, Fred Masters, Tom Motley, Barry Smiley** and Frank Motley ’70. Golf, old stories and just stuff brings smiles every time. A good portion of this group was sitting on College Walk with a supply of adult beverages on July 13, 1977, when the blackout occurred, and one of them asked the immortal question, “Why is New Jersey glowing?” I have lived in Hoboken, N.J., for 35 years and I still have not found that answer.

Steve Davis had some news as well. On the same June weekend that Steve and his wife, Lisa BC’76, celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary, they celebrated the wedding of their oldest daughter, Rebecca BC’07, in Prospect Park in Brooklyn. **Doug Neuman** and his wife, Katie, attended. Less than a month later, Steve’s son Jason Davis BUS’10 and his daughter-in-law, Maryl, welcomed home Steve and Lisa’s third grandchild, Evelyn Grace Davis (CC 2044), who joined Madeline (CC 2038) and Alexander (CC 2040). Steve is still practicing law in NYC and will keep practicing until he gets it right!

Steve’s update brings me to the final part of this column: my thoughts on the women’s basketball season. For years, I have sat by my WKCR broadcast partner, Russ Behrman ’77, JRN’78, BUS’84. Our group, in Section C of Levien, also includes Kevin DeMarrais ’64, sports information director in the ’70s; Jim Miller ’70, Tom Mariam ’78, Shari Teitelbaum BC’79 and three non-WKCR sports group members, Doron Gopstein ’63, Bruce Birns ’75 and Fred Rosenstein ’78. We have been going to both football and basketball games for years, and almost always end up at V&T post-game to refill our cholesterol (see the nearby photo!). In addition to this cast, we get our families, now into the third generation, as I bring my granddaughter to games and dinner.

When the team got to the Women’s National Invitation Tournament (WNIT) post-season tournament, the population of this group went off the charts for the four home games and the championship watch party. Steve and Lisa were there for the whole ride. In addition to Steve, I heard from other Columbia graduates, who ultimately joined us. During the six games of the tournament, we had no less than 16 people at dinner, and our top number was 22.

What a great journey for the team, but also for all of us! Some of these people have always gone to games and been season ticketholders, and all of us wanted to share the group experience. In addition, my email inbox volume was off the charts with classmates and Columbia friends wanting more information about the team and tickets.

Watching the talent and execution of this team consistently inspired us all season long. This team was demonstrably thrilled in the performance of each player and the execution of each play. They never stopped encouraging and teaching each other. It was almost like the learning skills that the Core Curriculum teaches in small class settings translated into court performances that stymied our opponents. Under Griffith and her staff, this team finished the season with 28 wins and 6 losses, as co-champions of the Ivy League and a WNIT finalist team that lost to the champions from Kansas.

I enjoy being inspired by youth. I enjoy seeing alma mater creating the same feelings inside today’s 20-year-olds that were formed inside me during our college days. And most of all, it is thrilling to see that a group of under-30 players, coaches and staff brings an important group (my classmates, friends and family) closer together. Friendship has always outweighed the final record, but when there are wins, the experience is so much fun. This team created a Lions pride beyond compare.

To the team and the athletics department, a simple thank you.

I hope our 50th reunion will recreate those same feelings in all the ’76ers. Please get involved, stay involved and continue to feel young!

1977

David Gorman
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There is very little news to share this column. My son got married in November, and it was nice to see family members get to Illinois after the break in travel that so many people have experienced during these Covid-19 years. I hope to return to traveling myself this year.

I still work, at Northern Illinois University, though that will not be much longer. I would be curious to hear about people’s retirement gigs, if any. It strikes me that most of the retirees who have written in seem to be taking it easy, but maybe I’m wrong about that.

One person who is a long way from lounging is **Jon Lukomnik.** “Somehow,” he writes, “I keep adding to the portfolio rather than slowing down.” Indeed. Recently Jon became one of two inaugural SIRI fellows at SIPA. (Ack, the acronyms are flying!)

Seriously, though, the Sustainable Investing Research Initiative addresses what is described as “system-level investing” in the face of environmental, social justice and human rights challenges. Reviewing Jon’s bio, I am reminded that he is well qualified to serve in this role. I also learned that he has a podcast.

I would love to see a list of people in our class who have podcasts; it might be a long one.

Please share your news, updates, and College memories and stories with me for inclusion in a future issue. Contact me at the address at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos must be sent to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure the photo is at least 750 kb in size and features at least two CC alumni (or one for Just Married! as long as that alum is a member of the couple and is featured).

1978

Matthew Nemerson
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As you're reading this, we will have just finished our reunion, so please be sure to send in pictures (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo; check the parameters at the top of the form) and remembrances (send to me) from our 45th. We will have a full recap in the next column.

Is there anyone alive who has a better understanding than **Tim Weiner** JRN'99 of what the Russians' goals are in Ukraine or how likely our intelligence agencies will get it wrong? For us he reports, "I've been happily married for 28 years to Kate Doyle, a courageous fighter for human rights, and blessed with two amazing daughters, Emma and Ruby, who are full of artistic and culinary creativity. Gainfully employed for the foreseeable future writing books (and some journalism on the side), and grateful to be alive and well. Every day you're above ground is a good day."

The Hon. Joe Greenaway '78 is hanging up his robe after 27 years on the bench: "Serving our country as a federal judge has been the thrill of a lifetime."

A writer of award-winning books on the U.S.-Soviet Cold War, the CIA, FBI and Aldrich Ames, Tim adds, "I seek to illuminate what is secret, hidden or disguised in American foreign policy, national politics, military programs and intelligence operations."

Probably on similar wavelength to Tim is **Bill Hartung.** "I continue to promote a more progressive U.S. foreign policy, now based at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft.

"I live 10 blocks from campus with my wife, Audrey. Daughter Emma lives in San Jose and works at Stanford.

"I write mostly about Pentagon spending and strategy, the global arms trade, the costs of the war in Ukraine and related topics for the Quincy Institute's series of papers and issue briefs, as well as a column at Forbes and TomDispatch, which is posted at thenation.com."

Ed Ferguson, of Brooklyn, has been cleaning up the city since graduating from law school. "I worked at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York, on cases involving mobbed-up enterprises like the Teamsters Union and the Fulton Fish Market; ran what is now the NYC Business Integrity Commission, whose goal is to get the mob out of the private carting industry; and for 21 years, have run litigation and investigations at IAC, an internet/media holding company.

"I'm married to Simone Procas, an IP lawyer at *The New York Times*, and we have Caleb, who works in the blockchain/NFT/etc. space on things I don't understand; Elias, a junior at Georgetown headed to law school; and Leila, a freshman at UC Berkeley headed wherever her muse takes her.

"We've lived in Park Slope, Brooklyn, for 17 years. As with probably more than a few classmates, I think about retiring but wonder what exactly I'd be doing every day!

"I keep up with **Allen Rothman, Ric Michel, Michael Glanzer** and Mark Thompson '79. We have vigorous email discussions not unlike those late-night sessions in the dorms, though now we grumpy boomers lament the rise of illiberalism and the tyranny of the woke!"

Another lawyer is **David Margules,** a *Spectator* veteran. "I moved to Center City Philadelphia last summer. My wife, Michelle BC'77, BUS'81, and I are blessed in that all of our children and our one grandchild live within walking distance. I can't say that aging has been an unmitigated pleasure, but being a grandparent makes up for a lot of the aches and creaky joints.

"I practice law at Ballard Spahr. It's been a great ride so far. My major regret is that I've been terrible at keeping up with old friends. I will have enjoyed reunion.

"I want to see how Columbia addresses campus issues concerning free speech and antisemitism."

"All good," exclaims **Bennett Caplan** from Bethesda, Md., "if the aim is to love and work well. I have had good fortune, with a terrific family and a winding career in which I worked with many great colleagues on a lot of fascinating topics."

Anthony Dellicarri is in Congers, N.Y. "I practiced law for 35 years, then spent four years in the mental health field and now, as I'm not one to sit around, am working my way through a master's in criminal justice."

Fellow Connecticut resident **John Flores** LAW'81 notes, "I have stopped working full time ... my last job was as general counsel with the last state treasurer. I spent a month with the new one and retired. I'm looking for a board position, but I'm busy with my six grandchildren."

My Reunion Committee co-chair, the Hon. **Joe Greenaway,** is hanging up his robe. "After 27 years on the federal bench, I sent a letter to the President to tell him. Serving our country as a federal judge has been the thrill of a lifetime. Back to private practice in the fall."

Not all notes are cheerful and happy. Many of us have endured the sadness and toughest challenges of life. Few are brave enough to share with the class. **Mark Axinn** wanted us to know what happened to him. "My wife, Becky Akers BC'83, was diagnosed with metastatic adenocarcinoma in January 2022 and died three months later, on April 18, 2022, in Ohio. In December 2021, we were hiking on the Appalachian Trail and went ice skating on New Year's Eve, all with no indication of what lay one month ahead.

"A slight pain on her side became intensely acute and we thought her gall bladder had ruptured. At that point, she already had stage 4 colon cancer, which had metastasized to her liver and lungs. The next day, I met with palliative care and things rapidly got worse from there. On Good Friday, April 15, we went to the emergency room. Her brothers and I stayed with her through the weekend. On Easter Sunday, April 17, at 5 p.m., I authorized moving her to hospice. I sent her brothers home and read the Bible to her, prayed and kept talking to her, as I was told that hearing is the last sense to go. At 1:07 a.m. on April 18, Becky made a beautiful little sound of goodbye, a tear formed on her eye and she stopped breathing. Becky was 62. We had 41 years, one month and 18 days. It was not enough.

"As opposed to many people, the pandemic was terrific for us. Becky and I had renovated and rebuilt our house in Ohio 10 years earlier. The house already had an office in which to work remotely so the transition from mostly NYC to suburban Akron was easy for us. Most days we both worked until 3 or 4 p.m., then went on a bike ride or took a walk around the lake, and sat on the front porch and had peanuts and wine while we watched the sun set. We spent about 80 percent of our time in Ohio, and our marriage had never been stronger.

"Becky died in the middle of Passover, which she loved; my devoutly Christian wife made the world's best matzo balls.

"Since then, I have been working full time at a midtown law firm and traveling constantly. It's easy to stay busy; it's much harder to stay focused. Sometimes when I am in Ohio, I think, should I clean out this closet, or do bills or go for a bike ride? I always choose Door No. 3.

"I refuse to be defeated by adversity. I will miss Becky every day of my life, but also know that she wants me to carry on, which I will do, just not as well."

Thanks, Mark.

Please keep writing.

1979

Robert C. Klapper
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Gilead "Gil" Lancaster shares this update: "First, my physical ties to Morningside Heights were cut when my mother, Deborah Lancaster LAW'68, passed away just before the pandemic. She was still living on Claremont Avenue in the apartment where I grew up. It was a sad goodbye, full of memories of her; my father, economics professor Kelvin Lancaster; my brother, Clifton Lancaster '74; and my own ties to Columbia.

"I am the medical director of non-invasive cardiology at Yale New Haven Health/Bridgeport Hospital.

In July, I became our hospital's Cardiology Fellowship Program director, when Dr. Craig McPherson '72, the current PD, retired. But before that happened, in March, Johns Hopkins University Press published my book, *Building a Unified American Health Care System; A Blueprint for Comprehensive Reform.* The book is a three-year project that lays out the details of a health care system reform plan, centered around the creation of a 'National Medical Board' that is modeled on the Federal Reserve. Among the many features of this proposal are mechanisms to achieve universal coverage, access to basic health care services and a modern user-friendly health system infrastructure" (bit.ly/3GpOWHr).

Joseph Ferullo is the "new CEO and publisher of the *National Catholic Reporter,* a progressive independent (not church affiliated) news organization. Begun in 1964, NCR has broken several stories, including, in the mid-'80s, the priest abuse scandal. This *Los Angeles Times* profile of NCR and me published in January has more info: bit.ly/3UewvuW."

Paul Sonnenschein BUS'83 writes, "I read with great interest and deep sadness the entry in the Spring/Summer 2022 *CCT* by **Allan Hoving** and the obituary of **Robert Richman,** who died on May 2, 2021.

Joseph Ferullo '79 is the new CEO and publisher of the National Catholic Reporter, *a progressive independent (not church affiliated) news organization.*

"I arrived at CC in summer '77 and struggled to get to know many classmates, living off campus as a transfer. During summer '78, when Bob I were both 'fishing' in the Gotham Book Mart on West 47th Street, we recognized one another, and our friendship commenced. Both English majors, we had classes together (Marcus, Said, etc.) but it was our off-campus experiences that were perhaps most meaningful.

"When Bob decided to start *Some Other Magazine,* I jumped at the chance to help out, by doing the typesetting and production work for the first issue. (I had a summer and part-time job at a legal printer, so had access to the equipment, primitive as it was.) It was, in effect, my first stint on the business side of a 'content' enterprise and set the stage for most of my professional life. I spent more than 15 years in the magazine and book club business when I lived in New York, and for more than 25 years have been in a variety of business roles in digital enterprises, after moving to Oregon in 1997.

"After many moves in and around NYC, across the country and then around the Portland area, I recently came across a copy of *Some Other Magazine,* Number One. It brought back many fond memories of Bob. ... I have the last stanza written by Bob in *SOM* #1, which makes all the difference:

"'Ah reticence! you may make
for a bad situation. But I will
say this:
that with the courage of reveries
we can traverse a latitude of storm
holing up in the beaten sculpture
of a ship, saying,
Now we may begin.'"

Andrew Coulter writes, "I was very pleased to be with our class correspondent, Dr. **Robert C. Klapper,** who is an eminent orthopedic surgeon in Los Angeles, a surfer and a sculptor. I fractured my hip in 2022 while skiing, and the solution was a full hip replacement. I sought out Dr. Klapper for this procedure knowing that he had helped many athletes, and am glad to say that I believe that I will ski again!

"Thank you, Dr. Klapper. I love my metal hip."

See a photo at college.columbia.edu/cct!

Jose Abete and his partner of 23 years, Fabrizio Ruspoli, have opened a hotel, Olinto Atlas Mountain Retreat, in Morocco. Jose reminds us, "I am secretary-general of the Fondation Jardin Majorelle in Marrakech and serve on its Board of Directors. The nonprofit foundation oversees the Majorelle Garden, the Musée Yves Saint Laurent Marrakech and the Pierre Bergé Museum of Berber Arts."

Robert C. Klapper: "Today's Columbia thought comes from the O.R. here at Cedars-Sinai, where I have spent the last 33 years doing orthopedic surgery on more than 16,000 patients. I give full credit to my four years at the College for steering me into the world of art history, for exercising my right brain to be creative and pursue many patents and to design unique surgical instruments that are used all over the world. Marrying the world of art and science has been my passion — one that would not have occurred if I hadn't entered the College with all of you 45 years ago.

"One of the more common operations I do is for arthritis in the knee and involves changing the worn-out cartilage for a new smooth titanium surface. The titanium implant is affixed to the bone with an acrylic cement that begins as a liquid and a powder, becomes doughy and ultimately becomes like concrete, serving as grouting between implant and bone. While it's in its doughy form, the excess cement between the bone and the implant is carefully removed with a tool. The tool I prefer to use is not specifically designed for removing this excess cement. I actually prefer to use what's known as a tonsil clamp. This allows me to scrape the cement as well as pick the excess cement up with this pliers-like tool. Recently a young resident asked why I do not use the traditional scooper curette and prefer to use this clamp. He quickly appreciated the value of being able to scrape as well as pick up material with the same tool, which the curette or scooper do not allow. This is when the Columbia thought came flying into my head.

"We all remember with great fondness V&T's eggplant pizza, Mama Joy's roast beef hero sandwiches, the croissants from The Hungarian Pastry Shop, Amir's Falafel and so many other delights. But what I remember most — and forgive me, I do not remember the name of the place and hope one of you gentlemen will remind me — is a hamburger place on Amsterdam Avenue, a real hole in the wall. In this tiny establishment (by the way, the word 'establishment' was bigger than the entire restaurant), I'd watch the owner/cook take from his plate a mountain of freshly ground beef (I'm certain this preparation is illegal in 2023) and create the perfect burger. The tool he used to create the greatest burger I've ever eaten from the freshest meat was an ice cream scoop! You know, the one with the handle, and the button you press that delivers the perfect hemisphere of material from the belly of the scoop.

"I remember the first time I witnessed this culinary operation, asking myself the same question the student asked me in the O.R. The tonsil clamp, like the ice cream scoop, was not designed for this fantastic application and yet, in my hands, and in that cook's hands, it is the perfect tool!

"We learned many things during our four years at the College. Who knew I would learn cross training of equipment and it would be so rewarding?

"Roar, lion, roar!"

1980

Michael C. Brown
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

Welcome to your life
There's no turning back
Even while we sleep
We will find you acting on your
best behaviour
Turn your back on Mother Nature
Everybody wants to rule the world.
— *Tears for Fears (1985)*

As we enjoy summer, for most of us our 65th year on this fine earth, I wish the Class of '80 happy birthday and best of luck filling out the Medicare application!

Congratulations are in order for the women's basketball team, which made us all proud with their play in both the Ivy League Tournament and Women's National Invitation Tournament. Coach Megan Griffith '07 has done a wonderful job building a top-quality program. Baseball had a stellar season under the leadership of Coach Brett Boretti, and the program continues to shine.

It should be noted that both teams had victories against the highest level of competition, like the ACC, Big East and SEC. We can play with any team in the nation!

We traveled to Nashville for the wedding of John Hall '81 and Dixie Pepper at the Brentwood Coun-

Together at the CC'80 Football Golf Outing at the Hackensack Golf Club in Oradell, N.J., on May 1 were, left to right: Scott Ahern, Brian O'Hagan, A.J. Sabatelle, Shawn FitzGerald, Joe Ciulla and Mike Brown.

try Club. The colorful contingent included **Scott Ahern, Joe Ciulla, Shawn FitzGerald** and Greg Staples '81. The guest list included everyone who is anybody in the high-altitude social circles of both cities. The highlight of the event were Jim Tulia (a.k.a. **Joe Ciulla**)'s anecdotes about John's college days! See a photo from the wedding in our column online, found at college.columbia.edu/cct.

Best wishes to John and Dixie!

Dennis Costakos was awarded the Karis Award, Greek for "caring," by the Mayo Clinic. Dennis has always put his patients first and was recognized for his exceptional care. He chairs the pediatrics department.

On a sad note, **Geoff Stoner**, captain of the '79 football team, passed away after an extended illness. Geoff was from Ohio and worked in New Jersey and Georgia in the social services field. He was a heck of a good tackle and great friend to us all.

I look forward to seeing you at a football game this fall. Drop me a note. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos must be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1981

Dan Albohn, Kevin Costa and Rich Gentile
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The Great and Ongoing Careers of Gary Cohen and the Columbia Business and Economics Society: **Gary Cohen** might be one of the most well-known alumni to graduate with us. Since 1989 he has been a stalwart member of the New York Mets baseball broadcasting team. The trio of Gary, Ron Darling and Keith Hernandez is widely considered one of the best in the business. Gary was profiled in these pages in the July/August 2006 issue (college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/jul_aug06/features2.html), but we thought it would be a good time to catch up with him because he has recently had his own "triple crown" of achievements.

First, Gary was immortalized with his own bobblehead (bit.ly/3GF42ce) at the Mets game on September 17. The doll magnetically connects to the ones for Ron and Keith, which were also featured last season. (If you missed the game, $50 on eBay will get you one, with the set of three for $250. We know that someone's birthday is coming.) Later last September, the MTA featured Gary's voice on a humorous 7 train announcement — the train that goes to Citi Field (bit.ly/408dc7U). But Gary's biggest honor came on June 3, when he was inducted into the Mets Hall of Fame. In a note to your correspondent (Kevin), Gary said: "I am beyond amazed to be inducted … Bob Murphy, Lindsey Nelson and Ralph Kiner [the Mets' original announcing trio] were the soundtrack of my youth, and I was overwhelmed just to have spent 15 years by Bob's side in the Mets radio booth. But to join them in the team's Hall of Fame was not even on my radar."

Part of what makes the Mets announcers such a pleasure for people our age is that the trio intersperse the play-by-play with clever riffs, puns and jokes relating to the music, literary and pop culture of our times. I tried to get Gary to tell us his favorite and/or most obscure exchange over the years, but alas, he was coy. "Ronnie, Keith and I are all in our 60s, so we share certain cultural touchstones, but diverge on others. My favorite references are ones we don't explain," he said. "IYKYK."

For those not up to the moment on texting acronyms, that last bit translates, "If you know, you know."

Ron played on the Yale baseball team 1979–81, so I asked Gary if he knew him back in the day. "I was done broadcasting Lions games when Ronnie came along," he said. "But Rolando Acosta '79, LAW'82 was Columbia's version of Ron, and all of us who enjoyed Columbia baseball in the '70s will treasure him."

Gary maintains his Columbia connection with Tom Mariam '78, Lloyd Carroll '79 and Jordan Sprechman '83, LAW'86, whom he regularly sees at Citi Field.

Congratulations to Gary, whose inimitable style has brought joy to legions of Mets fans everywhere. When you hear Gary on TV, you don't see the amazing physicality he expresses in his work. Check out this video of Gary, Ron and Keith's best calls of 2022: bit.ly/3KwKVSV.

We last checked in with **Dave Cook** at the beginning of the pandemic. He brought us up to date: "While continuing my work as a food-focused photojournalist — many of my recent assignments have been for an online publication, Culinary Backstreets — last year I also began leading gastronomic tours of Manhattan's Chinatown. The company that enlisted me, Context Travel, recruited me several years ago and booked my initial tour for the second week of March 2020. You won't be surprised to learn that it was canceled.

"Lately, however, I've been leading small private groups through Lower Manhattan and, by special request, through the newer and faster-changing Chinatown in Flushing, Queens. Manhattan's Chinatown isn't as large, but it has a richer history, and there's certainly no shortage of rice rolls and roast meats for us to sample as we wind our way through the streets."

Daniel Gordis writes: "I've been living in Jerusalem for 25 years and am beginning to retire from Shalem College, which I helped found. Shalem is Israel's first liberal arts college, with a core curriculum closely modeled on the College's. So even though I'm half a world away, my memories of class in Hamilton Hall shape many of my work days. My 13th book, *Impossible Takes Longer: 75 Years After Its Creation, Has Israel Fulfilled Its Founders' Dreams?*, was published in April. The college and the book writing have been a wonderful ride, but with all our kids married and all of them with kids of their own, we're anxious to have more time as grandparents and to travel, including back to campus."

And speaking of the campus, one gloriously sunny day last September, I (Kevin) found myself back there during "Activities Day." There were students from every imaginable extracurricular activity, recruiting from small tables stretching from Butler to the middle ranges of the Steps. This year's total student enrollment at the College is about 4,760, almost twice as large as in our time. It is also primarily residential now, and I got a sense of how large, and how different, the College has become by witnessing the hundreds of students in attendance.

One of the tables was staffed by a cheerful young woman promoting the Columbia Economics Society. I mentioned that the organization's founders, **Jim Moglia** and **Vin Bailey**, are in our class, and both had gone on to successful careers in finance. I let Vin know that their creation was still thriving.

Vin writes: "We started the Business and Economics Society in 1979 because there was no pre-business dean, as there was for law and medicine. I was heartened to hear that it was still going strong, and along with Jim, we met with the current leaders of the group. While the society has since dropped the word 'business' from its name, business and economics is still a part of what it does, and the group has since broadened its focus to include banking and consulting. Forty years later, it is now the largest and oldest pre-professional group on campus. After a lively conversation, Jim and I suggested they add a fifth focus, on public finance, for those interested in working in, or with, government."

These days Vin lives on the Rhode Island shore, where he plays in the local beach band while his wife, Maud, manages planned giving at the Mystic Seaport Museum. Jim has retired from a 35-year career as an investment banker to pursue full time his apparently closeted passions for music, visual arts, architecture and writing, and has formed The MAD Studio (an acronym of music, art and design) to organize those efforts. Vin and Jim still get together to play at The Barn, a performance space Jim designed and built in the Hudson Valley.

1982

Andrew Weisman
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Please send me your latest news, and I'll include it in a future issue. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

1983

Roy Pomerantz
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My son David '26 and I attended the women's basketball Ivy League Championship game against Cornell as well as most of the Women's National Invitation Tournament games. I've spent time at the games with **Ed Joyce, Andy Gershon, Andy Barth,** Mike Schmidtberger '82, Jim Weinstein '84, David Filosa '82, Marc Mazur '81 and Joe Cabrera '82. It was a magical season, and the Empire State Building was lit in Columbia blue to celebrate the Ivy championship.

Kevin Cronin "reported from Cleveland, where he returned after a decade of work in Congress and teaching master's students at Catholic University. For the record, he was appalled to see rioters in the Capitol, 'places I wandered in my personal commitment to democracy.' While not playing tennis anymore, he helped to create cycling safety and advocacy organizations, now with more than 1,000 members. Kevin is primarily a lawyer helping families in juvenile court. He was pleased to report on his work to create a museum in University Circle, Cleveland's higher education, culture and medical services/research center. The Cozad-Bates House Interpretive Center repurposed the only pre-Civil War building in the area to tell abolition stories of northern Ohio, those who risked everything in fleeing slavery, northerners who helped and, in some cases, some who hindered. Bordered by Virginia and Kentucky, the Department of the Interior has identified more abolition routes through Ohio than any other state. With Covid-19 shutting down live theater, he also produced two videos telling an important abolition story, that of the 'Oberlin-Wellington Rescue,' in which a community rose up and challenged the southern slave catchers and the northern marshals who were assisting, intent on proving to the south that they need not secede and that the north could be a loyal partner in enforcing slavery. The fugitive escaped to Canada and the marshals were stuck. What to do? They attempted to convict the more than 30 Ohio residents who assisted in the escape, dubbed 'The Trial of the Century.' Take a virtual tour of the Cozad-Bates House (bit.ly/3MY8sPF). For those wanting more, he can offer video showings where we are presenting through a network of participating libraries."

Ed Koral: "I was hoping to shlep the 12 blocks north to campus to attend the 40th reunion. I remain a big fan of Ken Jackson, and would have loved the chance to say hello and shake his hand.

"I live on the Upper West Side ('SoCo') with my wife, Leah, and our children, Isabel and George. Given our location, both kids refused to even apply to Columbia, even with the assurances that they'd be living in the dorms ('But I might *see* you on the *street*.') So it goes. The generational streak ends at three. I've recently joined the Strategic Risk Consulting group at Willis Towers Watson in NYC, enjoying getting back into the office after all the isolation and helping clients solve increasingly vexing problems coping with emerging natural and human-caused catastrophes. And, I've resumed my classical piano training, working on Chopin, Brahms and other pre-retirement projects.

"One last thing: We had dinner with **Henry Cutter.**"

Dan Dean: "It's hard to believe that it is our 40th reunion. I intended to be there, barring anything unforeseen.

"I live outside of Philadelphia with my wife of 30 years, Ellen. My children, Andrew (25) and Jennifer (23), are gainfully employed. I am an operating partner in a real estate fund focused on the parking business and am a capital markets advisor (debt and equity) on corporate and commercial real estate matters. I serve on a few boards and am looking to increase my board involvements at this point (private or public). I've established The Dean Family Fellowship Grant to provide small business grants to agricultural students from all over the world who come to the Arava Region of Israel to learn agronomy at the Arava International Center for Agricultural Training. It is very rewarding qualitatively, and it is my hope to have it scale once we get further up our own learning and experience curves.

"I am in touch with **Danny Schultz, Rich Pressman, Mark Warner, Joe Sullivan, Tony Solomons** and **Jeremy Fingerman,** as well as Jamie Miller Seligsohn BC'83 and Alison Davis BC'83.

"They are all, to varying degrees, doing very well, and are, to varying degrees (lol) contributing members of society. My fondest memories of Columbia revolve around The West End, lightweight crew and the general but benign mischief for which I had a bit of a reputation. I have good memories of Professors Len Davis, Karl-Ludwig Selig, Joseph Bauke GSAS'63, Charles V. Hamilton SW'82, Jay Schechter GSAS'78 and Frank Kermode. I am sure there were others, but these are the folks who left an impression on me."

Dan Ferreira: "I am involved in another startup venture. The Blue Stage is an art gallery with a performance space located in Andrews, N.C. [At this writing, we were] bearing down to open in April, and I hope to take a break once that is done."

Kevin Berkowitz (then Berk): "I live in Thessaloniki, Greece, with my family; I have been in the region for 20 years. I am a teacher of English, history and robotics for primary and secondary grades. I also lead tours of Thessaloniki and northern Greece. If you would like more information on visiting Greece and the southern Balkans, please contact me at +30 6930 777 237 or kberkowitz3@gmail.com."

Steve Holtje: "One of the bands I'm in, Caterpillar Quartet, put out an album during the pandemic (caterpillarquartet.bandcamp.com/album/threads). My work running the ESP-Disk label was covered twice this spring, first with an article about some of the albums it has released during my tenure (bit.ly/3zVbQTt), for which I was interviewed, and then with a three-hour radio show on which I was a guest, talking about and playing both ESP releases and my own music (bit.ly/3KzF8Mj)."

Roger Blumberg: "My wife, Cristina Mitchell '89, and I have been living in Providence for the last 10,700 days, or so [as of March]. After teaching at Columbia in the '80s, I went to Brown when Cris got into medical school there, and have been in the computer science department since '98. Our terrific daughter, Ellie, finished her junior year at Brown, and I've taken to staying out of her way by nearly retiring. Lately I'm feeling especially grateful to have been a student when the model for undergraduate education was the university, rather than the luxury hotel, and I'm in awe of my Columbia teachers who taught successfully for more than a single generation. I was spared having to teach via Zoom and instead worked on a book about technology and responsibility, and a novel about fugitive Leo Burt. This year I've been splitting my time between

Dennis Klainberg ’84 (left) and James Weinstein ’84 celebrated Klainberg’s 60th birthday — the last in his class to become a sexagenarian! — on January 28 at the Hard Rock Cafe in Miami.

Providence and New York; I would be happy to have a drink or a meal with classmates in either place.”

Don Steinberg: “After more than a year of spare time, I am amazed that my first comic book, *Cereal,* is available at boinkcomix.com. I collaborated with the great cartoonist Richard A. Harrington (Syracuse U). *Cereal* might be the first comic book thriller/business satire/drama series set in the breakfast cereal industry! Our hero, indie cereal inventor Tracey Colorado, is nearing an explosive innovation that could upend the industry. But she questions her own sanity when she starts receiving desperate pleas for help from the cereal box cartoon characters, who in their Cereal Mascot Universe are being stalked in a series of violent attacks. We’ve had positive early response. Issue number 2 is in production. This probably is an unconventional use of a Columbia degree.” [Editor’s note: See college.columbia.edu/cct/latest/online-spotlights.]

Love to all! Everywhere!

1984

Dennis Klainberg
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Spotlight this month on two remarkable classmates and — as the Great Professor would say — “treasured friends.”

First up, a fellow participant each day for three years in the Barnard Meal Plan; the man who introduced me to a band called Blotto (“I, I, I, wanna be a lifeguard”); the dude who invited me, **Peter Markson** and a few others (you know who you are!) to see this one-hit wonder band in concert, only to meet Tiny Tim walking out of the venue as we walked in; the hockey fan who insisted we attend the premiere Rangers game of the 1980s, when their famous enforcer Nicky Fotiu returned (and did not disappoint!); the champion who invited us to great parties at his fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta (aka FIJI); “hey now,” it’s **Bruce Skyer.**

“I recently left the world of full-time employment and have resumed my consulting business in the nonprofit sector. At the present time, I am focused on being interim executive director or other consulting engagements that assist nonprofits in navigating change. My focus is on ensuring an organization has the right strategies, structures and systems to optimize its impact and ability to fulfill its mission.

“With an empty nest, my wife, Lori, and I have downsized, town hopping from Trumbull to Stamford to, as of now, Fairfield, but all in the Nutmeg State. My older son, Ray, is a first-grade teacher at a charter school in Boston and my younger son, Ben, works for a tech startup in NYC. Ben lives on the Lower East Side, not far from McSorley’s and a short walk to Wo Hop, so I can relive my college days when I visit him.”

Batting second, a great tuba player; CU Marching Band mate; and helluva stylish dancer at the Pub; need we say more? It’s **Bill Maxwell!** (Or more formally, **William J. Maxwell**, professor of English and African and African-American studies, Washington University in St. Louis).

“I’m writing this note, inspired by **David Cowan**’s news in the Winter/Spring 2023 issue, among other items.

“In fall 2022, our son shipped off for his freshman year at William & Mary in Virginia, and I returned to Manhattan on sabbatical as a visiting scholar in the NYU English department. I found a walkup on the Upper West Side (the West Village, but for old people) and did research for a new book in the James Baldwin papers at the Center for Research in Black Culture in Harlem. Since 2009, I’ve taught modern American and African-American literature as a professor in the English department at Washington University in St. Louis, where my friend Claudia Swan BC’85, GSAS’97 — a fellow habitué of the Sylvia Plath Room in the Barnard cafeteria — has recently taken up a chair in art history. While in the city, still my favorite place of any kind, I enjoyed visiting with classmates including Kyran Cassidy ’85; Joseph Chu ’85, BUS’97; **Mark Garbowski** LAW’87; Saul Fisher ’86 and **Michael Sexton.**”

Many thanks to Bruce and Bill for giving me an opportunity to share my affection for the great friendships and experiences during those four remarkable years. Hoping to hear from more of you, especially those who’ve never contributed.

Roar, Lion, Roar. And let’s start gearing up for our 40th next year!

1985

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Thanks for the updates. Several of you noted the “changing seasons” and life choices that folks are making at this point in their lives.

After 30 years with The Royal Bank of Scotland, most recently as CEO of the U.S. region, **Paul Stevelman** is taking a break and spending time working on establishing an organic fruit orchard at his and his wife’s home in South Salem, N.Y., and working with Make-A-Wish Connecticut, as board vice-chair. He writes, “My wife is a fashion designer in New York City, and my oldest daughter will attend and play volleyball for Ursinus College in Pennsylvania. I have great memories of college and my terrific classmates; I would love to hear from people.”

Good to hear from **Sal Giambanco,** who had not written in a while. “I am in overall good health and in better shape than when I graduated. I have the blessings of having been able to ‘retire’ from paid employment more than five years ago and recommend retirement as soon as you can — the world slows down and life is enjoyed with full personal agency. I do maintain an active gratis set of portfolio organizations, as a founding board member and a Board of Directors chair of the Global Innovation Fund (two of my fellow founding board members won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences in 2019). I rolled off after seven years in 2021; we lifted 100 million out of poverty.

“I am a longtime board member of iMerit, out of Kolkata, where we train women in AI software development. We’re up to more than 6,000 employees and empower women who often would otherwise be sold as child brides to be the major breadwinners of their families (and they are then not sold). I continue my gratis advising at Fordham GSAS, at CARE and for a range of other executives through my gratis executive coaching process.

“I remain great friends with my College roommate of three years, **Ben Carroccio.** He, his wife, Brenda, and I and my husband, Tom, have traveled across Sicily, Spain and Portugal in recent years. We plan to celebrate our all turning 60 together in my adopted home of New Orleans (we split our time between Nola and San Francisco). And my best friend, Mr. Seneca, our black and white German Shorthaired Pointer, celebrated his 16th birthday in January!”

Tom Wheeler and his wife practice medicine and negotiate four parents in their mid- to late 80s. “Evan, my son, returned from Okinawa, married an Argentine woman and is headed back to Camp Pendleton to train Marine recruits.”

Jon Reich has written a book that will be released this summer. Stay tuned for details.

It was also great to get notes from my Stuy classmate **Rob Ripin**, who continues to practice law at Hogan Lorvells (and whose memory about a bus ride we shared from a certain day in high school was far greater than mine) and from my GleeCo cohort **Leslie Smartt.**

I suffered a second detached retina in January, which one of you so accurately stated is an unwelcome reminder of the aging process. I had a detachment nine years ago in my lesser-seeing eye. This time it unfortunately occurred in my better-seeing eye, let alone when I was out of town on a business trip (navigating multiple airports when you can’t see signs is a real challenge). Aside from surgery, the recuperation includes an initial period of looking down at the floor for several weeks for the vast majority of the day and the insertion of a nitrous oxide bubble in my eye to help with healing (this precludes one from flying, as the air pressure would burst the bubble and take one’s vision out with it). Fortunately, after several months, my vision, albeit not as good as it was prior to the detachment, has returned to sufficient functionality so I can read, drive and write this column. Make sure you take care of your eyes.

Happy milestone birthday this year, and I hope that the inevitable signs of aging are manageable for all. Please let us know how you are marking this milestone, how your life is changing as you look to the future and any “grand reflections” you might have as you celebrate this auspicious event.

Best to all, and enjoy the summer!

1986

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Sam Abrams sent us a nice note from Finland. “Anyone from CC’86 passing through Finland, recently ranked the top country for the sixth consecutive year by the UN’s World Happiness Report, should be in touch. I’m here with my family until September as a Fulbright visiting professor at the University of Turku, teaching courses in comparative education policy and researching the evolution of vocational education in Finland and neighboring countries. Turku is not typically on a tourist’s itinerary but should be. It’s the Paris of Finland, steeped in history, anchored by a cathedral at one end and a castle at the other, both built in the 1200s, and bisected by the Aura River, the city’s Seine, flanked by cobblestone promenades, towering lime and linden trees, and countless cafés.”

If you email me, I will send you Sam’s email. We have classmates living all over the world, and they often say, “If you visit my city, please look me up.” We rarely get in touch because we don’t know that classmate, we don’t remember they live there and/or we don’t have their contact info. The solution is a list of our classmates by city, which I am happy to send to you. So for example, if you happen to be visiting Finland, why not connect with Sam, a super guy who would be happy to meet up with you? It’s great to meet up with someone your age who is smart and shares the CC’86 connection. Just email me if you’d like a copy of this list. And then when you travel somewhere, check this list beforehand to see if there’s a classmate living there, and reach out to them. Another use for the list is to contact classmates in your own city and meet for lunch or drinks. You’re never too old to make new friends or reignite old friendships. Don’t be shy!

Marin Gazzaniga, one of the few women in our class, sent us a first-time update. “My play *The Unbelieving* premiered Off-Broadway at 59E59th Theaters this past fall, and I was touched to have many CC and Barnard alums in the audience. The play was based on interviews with non-believing clergy and was a fascinating project that took eight years to bring to life, but it was worth it. The original interviews were conducted for a study by Daniel C. Dennett and Linda LaScola, and I did additional interviews for the play. When not working on niche, documentary plays I write for *The Young and the Restless* on CBS. It turns out the Core Curriculum is the perfect training for soap opera writing — knowing something about enough topics to churn out a script a week. I still see many friends from BC’86 and CC’84–’87.”

Jamie Berger also emailed us a first-time update. “Recently celebrated my 15th anniversary with my wife, Anja Schütz. We live in Turners Falls, in western Massachusetts (where I landed in 2005 after 14 years in San Francisco) in an old brick house that’s getting grouchy, with two old dogs, Mario and Kono, and one young cat, Mink. I host a podcast, 15 Minutes: A Podcast about Fame. that’s lying fallow as I work on a writing project TBA. I work with students locally, regionally, and as far and wide as Hong Kong and France as an independent educational consultant, helping high schoolers and their families with all aspects of the college application process, but without any of the sordid behavior that people with that job title recently went to jail for in Southern California. There’s no way I can possibly be 58.”

You might be wondering whatever happened to Angelo and Angela, the famously named Columbia/Barnard couple. They lived happily ever after, as we learned from **Angelo Cuonzo** LAW’89’s recent email. “Last year, Angela Mazzaferro BC’87 and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary. We live in New Jersey and I practice law there as a partner at Slowinski Atkins. Angela is a property casualty actuary at Verisk/ISO, where she has worked since graduating. We are essentially empty-nesters. In September, our older son, Anthony, married his longtime girlfriend, Sydney Wess, and they live in Alexandria, Va. Our younger son, Andrew, is in his second year at Carnegie Mellon, studying electrical and computer engineering. He is interning this summer in the Philadelphia area.”

Congrats to **Morris Hartstein,** an oculoplastic surgeon practicing in Israel. Last year he received the Outstanding Humanitarian Service Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology at its annual meeting. The award was on behalf of the work he does through his nonprofit, Operation Ethiopia, along with his wife, Elisa BUS’94.

After a family trip in 2014, Mo and his family returned to Ethiopia many times to provide quality eyecare and prevent blindness to people who otherwise have no means or access. To date, Mo has examined and treated more than 8,500 Ethiopian patients and overseen more than 1,400 sight-restoring surgeries, all free of charge. He has also brought 19 Ethiopian ophthalmologists to Israel for training. They continue to facilitate humanitarian aid to the Jews in Ethiopia, which was their founding cause.

Congrats to **Adam Cohen**, an associate professor of art history at the University of Toronto, on the publication, after many years of hard work, of *Art and Architecture of the Middle Ages: Exploring a Connected World.* This intro survey was co-written with Jill Caskey and Linda Safran. There is a free, complementary website that everyone is welcome to check out: artofthemiddleages.com. Adam hopes this brings back good memories of Art Hum :-)

Congrats to **Scot Glasberg,** whose son Alex ’23 will start a job in July with Goldman Sachs in West Palm Beach, in its Hedge Fund Strategies Division. Scot was recently installed as president-elect of The Plastic Surgery Foundation of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. He previously was president of ASPS.

Please send me your latest news, and I’ll include it in a future issue. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1987

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One of the real joys of doing this column is hearing from old friends. I was so happy to hear from my Carman 5 neighbor and dear friend **Tom Lester,** who sent in this update: “My son, Philip, graduated from high school in May and it is a joyful reminder of the fifth floor of Carman Hall our freshman year. Philip will probably stay close to home here in Oklahoma, as he is quite the homebody. My daughter, Char, finished her sophomore of high school and will probably venture as far away as possible in two years’ time.

“I have been a history, math and science teacher for the last 25 years in Los Angeles, Maine and now Oklahoma, having spent the last

Left to right, Nikos Andreadis '88 and his wife, Yvonne Knapp '90, joined Melissa Raciti-Knapp '90 and her husband, Jon Knapp '91, at a Lions men's basketball game at Levien Gym on February 18.

16 years teaching math at a small private school."

Peter Ross announces the birth of his fifth child, and fourth daughter, Wilhelmina "Willa" Penelope Ross, with his new wife, Arabella Cuneo, who is from Australia.

And last but certainly not least, I'm celebrating news close to home: my father, Rabbi Alvin Kass '57, has been honored by NYU (where he received his Ph.D.) with the 2023 Eugene J. Keogh Award for Distinguished Public Service. Needless to say, my whole family, including my brothers, Danny Kass '95 and Lewis Kass, are thrilled for him.

Please send me your latest news by email or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

1988

Eric Fusfield
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Ed Cespedes shared some warm memories of late classmate **Michael Kennelty.** "To members of the Class of '88, he was known as the 'Grim Reaper' or just 'Grim,'" Ed wrote. "To me, the nickname was always a misnomer. There was nothing scary about Grim at all. Grim loved people and people loved Grim. He was that big, strong, funny guy to whom people gravitated. He was fun to be around. To a bunch of us, he was as much a part of the Columbia experience as a spring day on the Steps. Stories related to Grim always come up when we reminisce about our time at Columbia. We will really miss him."

Adrienne "Rennie" Brodeur, who splits her time between Cambridge and Cape Cod and is executive director of the literary nonprofit Aspen Words, has written a novel for release on July 11. *Little Monsters* is "an absorbing, sharply observed family story by a writer who knows Cape Cod inside and out — its Edenic lushness and its snakes," according to the publisher's website.

Leslie Gittess Brodsky wrote in the run-up to our recent 35-year reunion that she was looking forward to seeing classmates there. "I hear there are many great events lined up, so I hope this is our best and most attended reunion yet!" she said.

To those who participated in reunion, held June 1–3, please share your updates with us about whom you caught up with and how it went. Stay in touch! We're looking forward to hearing about it.

1989

Emily Miles Terry
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I'm happy to announce our latest guest columnist, **Renny Smith,** who will represent the Carman Mezzanine level for this issue. For those of you who don't remember the Mezzanine level, it was a compact half-floor one floor up from the main lobby. My Carman 11 roommate, **Elisabeth Socolow,** and I would sometimes visit the Mezzanine; we'd push the elevator button and jokingly ask, "Going down?" when the door opened. It was very funny when the elevator was full of hurried classmates because our question about going down half a floor caused indignant outrage from those riding up, which sent us into hysterics.

Many thanks to Renny for volunteering to help with our column:

"The Mezz," one of the most memorable and enigmatic parts of our Columbia experience, sat at the top of the staircase just inside the entry vestibule, or, as every person who lived in Carman eventually found out, at the stop the elevator made when you pressed "M." And press it you did, because not a day went by without a curious group peeking out of the elevator car. And we always came out of our rooms to greet you — we were at risk of harm if we took the elevator up half a floor, so we knew that if we heard a "ding" it probably meant intruders were arriving. Some of you were bold, some hesitant, and you always came in groups, never alone. Often the visitors impulsively pressed "M" just to see what was there; other times it seemed to be a car full of first-timers led by someone who had previously visited and wanted to share their discovery with their friends from other floors in Carman, or even John Jay.

Bob Ozello is the central character in this Mezzanine edition. In conversations with other residents for this piece, the first thing anyone remembered about the space had something to do with Bob — his energy, charisma and playfulness. And, his lack of boundaries. His confidence led to a career as an equities trader in New York, Atlanta and back in New York, following a meandering path through the financial system. Bob's fearlessness let him trade successfully through what he describes as "the turbulence of many historic markets." For the last few years he has been trading independently.

Bob lives in Massapequa, N.Y., in the house where he grew up, with his extended family a close part of his life. Bob remembers other students wandering up the half-flight of stairs from the Carman lobby and looking into the Mezzanine common area through the skinny window in the door "like a fishbowl."

Kirk Ruddy BUS'98, Bob's roommate, is a fixed income trader and moved from New York to Michigan and back, then to California, Texas and Hong Kong, finally living for the last decade in Connecticut. Along the way, he earned an M.B.A. from Columbia while being a coach for the golf team; survived a brain aneurysm, and the recovery from surgery to repair it; and was a single dad to three boys now aged 18–21.

Kirk's optimism was remarkable to all of us in 1985 and I'm happy to report that it's as strong today as it was then. Kirk doesn't remember who owned the throwing knives, but that the Mezzanine's short hallway made a perfect place to throw them.

Reporting on the Mezzanine gives us the honor of bringing our Engineering siblings into the picture. **David Adelberg SEAS'89** split his first years after college between working in New York and earning a master's from Stanford. Job opportunities on the West Coast subsequently got in the way of his returning "home" to Long Island, and he has enjoyed a long career in construction management, primarily overseeing large public works projects. David has four children and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with his wife, Michelle. He remembers his amazement that while other floors had resident advisors, seniors or grad students living among them, there wasn't anyone supervising us on the Mezzanine.

David's roommate, **Kyle Loudermilk SEAS'89**, SEAS'90, stayed at Columbia to get a master's in chemical engineering. He worked for a large oil company in the United States and in Germany, spent a dozen years as a sales engineer for a chemical engineering software company, worked for the next 10 years in varied technology jobs and now sits in the CEO chair at a small publicly held engineering and software company. Kyle has one son entering law school and one in college, and lives in the Washington, D.C., area with his adorable 10-year-old daughter. Kyle remembers that we managed to watch an enormous amount of television, despite that fact that someone had stolen the common-room TV during Orientation.

Stephanos Bibas lived in the suite across from David and Kyle. Stephanos continued his education at Oxford and Yale Law, followed by two judicial clerkships and a stint as a prosecutor in New York. In 2001 he entered academia and in 2006 took a professorship at Penn Law, where his scholarship focused on criminal justice policy and wrongful convictions. In 2017 he was nominated and confirmed as a judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, a position he retains while also teaching part time. Stephanos lives in the Philadelphia area with his wife and four children, aged 10–15. He remembers, fondly, how loud it was on the Mezzanine, how much fun it was and how it lacked any personal space. (Sadly, I was unable to locate Stephanos' roommate.)

Jonathan Sturt GSAPP'95 earned an M.Arch. from Columbia, worked in New York long enough to get his professional licensure, then lit out to see the world. If one were tracking Jon's path across a globe with sections of yarn, then one probably didn't bring enough yarn. He met his wife, Cassie, while backpacking in Africa. They traveled the world together while working internationally for several years, living in Calgary, Houston, New York, Baku and London before settling in Chamonix a decade ago. Jon reports spending more time parenting than working, which forces him to be outside skiing, biking and mountaineering with his kids, aged 9–13. Jon doesn't remember who owned the clubs, but that the Mezzanine's short hallway made a perfect place to hit golf balls.

Submit Your Photo

CCT welcomes Class Notes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

I (**Renny Smith**) shared a room with Jon. I spent a few months working at Columbia and starting graduate school before abruptly moving back to Kentucky to begin a career operating my family's business — making tombstones plus pretty much any other thing that can be made from rock. It was supposed to be temporary, but it turned out to be challenging and fun, and while there have been plenty of headaches, at least I never had to dress up for work. I'm still here and trying to shepherd myself and my three sons, aged 18–24, further into adulthood. I remember (along with everyone else) very clearly how immature we were when we showed up in late summer 1985, but managed to find our way forward.

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
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Spanning the country from way west to east, let's say aloha to **Bennett Cale.** "After 16 years of living on Maui, my wife, Gabby, and I are returning to the Bay Area for our son, Izzy (14), to start high school in the fall at The College Preparatory School. Izzy and his sister, Sabine (12), are somewhat open to the idea of the move, but we are all a little nervous about returning to 'the mainland.' Wish us luck. And for any of you who have wanted to visit but never did, the clock is ticking!"

Jeffrey Berk sent me this note in March: "I left line producing in the movie and television industry three years ago to teach in Los Angeles' public (unified) school district (LAUSD). I taught a third-grade class last year and a fifth-grade class this year. I have never been happier in a job. I committed two years to this endeavor and will head back to the entertainment industry or some other industry at the end of this year. I strongly encourage classmates to take at least a one-year career break to step into public education."

In the spring, **Max Bachrach**, a resident of The Woodlands, Texas, joined the patent law boutique firm Viksnins Harris Padys Malen as a partner after almost 18 years at Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, where he was VP of intellectual property. Max's practice focuses on the biotechnology and pharmaceutical fields, and on small molecules in particular. He says, "It all began in Havemeyer Hall, so long ago … ."

Nancy Pak BUS'95, CEO of Boston-based Walden Local Meat, conducted a spectacular interview with Kathleen King, founder of Tate's Bake Shop, at the Columbia College Women Signature Event 2023, held at Faculty House in March. CC'90 had solid representation, in the form of CCW president **Margaret Robison** as well as **Arlene Hong**, **Judy Shampanier** and **Sherry Pancer Wolf**, who since January is our Columbia College Alumni Association president! Fun fact: Her husband, Doug Wolf '88, also was a CCAA president.

Sadly, I end this column with the news of **Chris Choi**'s death in November from pancreatic cancer.

1991

Heather E.G. Brownlie
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Hi everyone! Please keep submitting your news and information to me throughout the year! I really appreciate all the updates! I look forward to hearing from you soon.

On April 5, Dr. **Jennifer Ashton** VPS'00, HN'16 was honored with the American Heart Association's 2023 Woman Changing the World Award. Jennifer is the chief medical correspondent for ABC News. See "Just Married!" for a photo from her November wedding.

Yours truly, **Heather Brownlie**, is now a grandmother of four, having welcomed granddaughter Teddie Lane Fisher on January 15.

Dr. **Grazie Pozo Christie** writes: "I live in Miami with my husband and our fifth child, who is still in high school. The rest have flown the coop, the two oldest married. We are hoping to become grandparents very soon. I practice radiology in the Miami area. I am also senior policy advisor for The Catholic Association, which is dedicated to the defense of religious liberty and other Catholic values. I am a regular columnist for *Angelus News* and write for other national publications with regularity. Gov. Ron DeSantis (R-Fla.) appointed me to the Florida Board of Education last year and I'm enjoying helping him and the Florida Legislature implement sensible and needed reforms to Florida education."

Christopher Front GSAS'93 writes: "After 21 years at John Burroughs School in St. Louis, I will move in July to Indianapolis to become the next head of Park Tudor School, a PK–12 independent day school. If there any alums in the Indy metro area, I'd love to connect with them."

Joel Rubenstein writes: "I still live in Malmö, Sweden, but changed jobs in April. After five years running Niconovum AB, British American Tobacco's nicotine replacement therapy business, I moved to Fertin Pharma, which is Philip Morris' NRT business, as VP, global strategy and business development, based in Copenhagen. If anyone finds themselves in Copenhagen (great city) or southern Sweden, I'd love to meet up."

Noah Elkin shared some devastating news: "**Rachel Porter** died on February 27, 2023, from a rare and incurable cancer, leaving her two wonderful boys, Sasha and Ulisse; family (Manlio Narici, Joan Porter and Josh Porter); and a large community of CC and other friends.

"After Columbia, Rachel was actively engaged in a variety of public policy, community and cooperative efforts. These included the Vera Institute of Justice; the Park Slope Food Coop, where she was working on a book to help spread and scale the model for communities around the world; and New York City Public Schools. She was a special education teacher at Edward R. Murrow H.S. in Brooklyn — a job she especially loved.

"A beloved mother and friend, during the last 30-plus years, Rachel was an anchor for a wide-ranging collection of CC friends. She loved cooking and hosting large and frequent gatherings, including a beautiful early spring brunch in Brooklyn just three weeks before she died. As always with a Rachel event, her baked goods were astounding, and rich philosophy, politics, arts, science and citizenship conversations abounded throughout.

"Rachel faced death with stunning clarity and honesty, sharing deeply personal letters with her community as her health worsened. In one of her last, she said, 'Be as happy, as good and as smart as you can be. It makes me smile to think of so many good lives stretching out into the world.'"

Please take a moment to send me your latest news and happenings, and I'll share them in a future issue. It has been so wonderful to hear from everyone! You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to check the photo parameters at the top of the form.

1992

Olivier Knox
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Greetings, CC'92!

Louise Dubin wrote from South Orange that she was first cello for the *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* in December. "And this spring I started work as the solo cellist in the Broadway play *Room,* which opened in April.

"My daughter continues to light up my life and is enjoying outdoor school, ballet, watercolor painting, and making up stories with me," said Louise, who is married to Hugh Cushing '87. "We met after college. Not news anymore, but a good thing!"

Screenwriter and producer Anna Levine Winger '92 has a new Netflix drama series, Transatlantic, *about the Emergency Rescue Committee in Marseille in 1940.*

A good thing indeed! And it illustrates what I keep trying to get across to classmates: It may not be news to you, but fellow Columbians love getting updates like this.

I also heard from **Anna Levine Winger,** who is a screenwriter and producer and sends her very best from Berlin.

"My last series was *Unorthodox* and my new series, *Transatlantic,* premiered April 7 on Netflix. It's a drama inspired by the story of Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee in Marseille in 1940, starring Gillian Jacobs and Corey Stoll," she wrote.

I'll be seeing this. My mother, now deceased, was born in 1940 in the south of France. I first heard about Fry from my grandparents. Also, I'm a Gillian Jacobs fan. Fry's archive can be found at Butler Library.

Anna continues, "My daughter Isabella '26 loved her first year. She lived in Carman, along with the kids of many of my College friends, including Isaiah Levy '26," son of **Noah Levy.**

Belated congrats to Isabella and Isaiah!

In more news-that-isn't-news, **Eric Garcetti** won Senate confirmation as U.S. ambassador to India.

Peter Hatch wrote from the John Jay Awards Dinner, held on March 1, to declare CC'92 "appropriately overrepresented" with two of the five awardees.

Honored were **Anna Brockway,** founder and president of Chairish, the world's leading online marketplace for exceptional vintage home furnishings and art, and Dr. **Ashish Jha**, President Biden's White House COVID-19 response coordinator.

"Anna's cheer section included **Sarah Silverman Aibel; Rachel Nover Benevento;** my Reunion Committee co-chair, **Wah Chen; Alyssa Coller Shapiro;** and Denise Apicella BC'92," Peter reported.

"Ashish also had his stans lining up, grateful for his public-health leadership. I finally got the chance to thank him in person on behalf of my colleagues and I, who led the Covid-19 response for NYC and appreciated his wise data analysis and clear public communications during the worst of the pandemic," he added.

"Rounding out the night," Peter continued, "it was great to catch up with **Maria Ramirez Jurgens,** a Reunion Committee member; and **John Marciano,** one of **Hilary Rubenstein Hatch** and my daughters' favorite authors."

That's all for now. By the time you read this, my teen will have toured Columbia as a likely applicant. And if the parent of a college-bound kid tells you they don't feel old, odds are they're lying.

Please send me your latest news by email or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1993

Neil Turitz
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God bless you band of miscreants. I got a ton of submissions for this issue even *before* I made any email and Facebook entreaties to send in your updates. So buckle up for a fun ride, a prelude to next issue's post-30TH REUNION COLUMN! It's gonna be wild! But then, so is this one! Read on! See for yourself!

I heard from **Jack Chen,** who filled me in on a fascinating tech startup he co-founded a few years ago, Loud-Hailer, which has taken on a decidedly Columbia-esque bent. "Former suitemate **Jay Lessler SEAS'93** and his wife, **Joelle Saad-Lessler** GSAS'03, are investors, and Jay sits on the Board of Directors," Jack said. "**Marielena Villar,** Shannon Halkyard '94 and Jonathan Sroka BUS'08 are all advisors."

Jack helped invent the company's proprietary technology on two-way Bluetooth and co-authored the company's patents. During the pandemic, companies used its position intelligence technology to keep their workforce safe. Next up is the eldercare space.

Jack met **Harlan Malter** for the first time while they waited to board a flight to Albany from Chicago's O'Hare. "Harlan had a horse racing at Saratoga from his Ironhorse Racing Stable venture," Jack says.

Old pal **Yon Okorodudu** reached out again to say that his son Tse is finishing his freshman year at Howard and interning for the NAACP. Daughter Amira lives in Brooklyn, is going to college there and is a clothes designer, creating them by hand and selling them all over New York City. Yon and his wife, Jana Bailey GS'94, TC'97, are teachers in Redlands, Calif., where he's the varsity boys basketball coach at Citrus Valley H.S.; teaches American government, Black history and ethnic studies; and is an advisor for the Black Student Union. Jana is the director of the award-winning AVID program at Redlands East Valley H.S. "Her program has achieved 'National Demonstration School' status," Yon said proudly. "Only a few hundred schools in the nation get that honor."

Two other old friends reached out to give updates and invite people to visit. **Yumi Koh** spoke at the Women on Wall Street conference in October, works at J.P. Morgan Private Bank and lives in Atlanta, where she's neighbors with **Thad Sheely** and **Isaiah Delemar** and says, "Come visit us!" **Molly Sellner Harris,** meanwhile, is now an empty-nester, and so she and her husband spent most of the winter skiing in Jackson Hole, Wy. "Hope to do it again next year," she said, "so reach out if you are coming to the mountain to ski!"

See you there, Molly!

My old Carman 11 floormate **Yael Swica** PH'06 has "three kids, one husband and zero pets; lives in a rambling pre-war apt on the UWS; and is a happy doctor in private practice downtown, specializing in women's health. Columbia feels like forever ago but always makes me happy when I think of it."

I told her about the reunion happening a few blocks away from her apartment. Cliffhanger alert! Check out the next issue to see if she decided to come!

Daniel Ehrenhaft is a book editor in New York and acquired the YA illustrated novel *This Terrible True Thing*, from author Jenny Laden BC'92, in a deal brokered by book agent (and my pal and co-op leader from oh so many years ago) Kevin O'Connor '92. The book hits stores in September.

I also heard from a bunch of first-timers. **Laura Albritton** says that five years ago, she moved from Miami to Thomasville, Ga., with her husband and daughter. "Small-town life has been an adjustment," she said, "but we now have a busy social life and know most of our neighbors!" Her daughter attends Georgia Tech, and on top of working remotely for the University of Miami's Writing Studies Program, Laura recently was the writer on a feature-length documentary, *The Florida Keys: 200 Years of Paradise,* produced by South Florida Public Television. The film aired in January and will be broadcast on 249 public television stations. Next up for Laura and her husband is a conservation documentary about longleaf pine habitat. She added, "I haven't seen friends from CC in a long while, but I enjoy following their adventures on social media."

Jon Sorid has been at Johnson & Johnson for 21 years and enjoys his role in the pharmaceutical supply chain. "I recently met up with my roommate and friend, **Matt Streem**," Jon said, "and he looks exactly the same as he did years ago."

As a good pal and fantasy baseball competitor with Matt, I can second this. It's uncanny. Sorry! Digression! We were talking about Jon, who still plays his saxophone on occasional gigs in Philly, and whose daughter just finished her first year at Columbia, living in Carman.

"The dorm looks great but has the same two slow elevators!" Jon noted.

The more things change … et cetera.

Vicky Virnich was very excited to share that, after being a high school English teacher, then an assistant principal at Denver South High School Newcomer Center, she recently became the principal of Compassion Road Academy, a small alternative Denver public high school with a unique programming model: every student at CRA has access to 1:1 mental health support built into their school day. "As you can imagine," Vicky explained, "the need for this in post-pandemic education is significant and is growing. When students have to leave school to go to therapy appointments, they can get further behind in school, which can lead to additional stress." Vicky has also been a guest speaker and panelist at numerous conferences, and asks you to get in touch if you're interested in learning more or collaborating with her on mental health access and social-emotional learning in public schools (vickyvirnich@msn.com).

And then there's **Jin Song Montesano,** who wrote from Tokyo, where she lives with her husband and their two dogs. Jin took a circuitous path to Japan. She earned a master's in public affairs from Princeton, had a short stint in congressional affairs in D.C., then joined the corporate workforce and spent 12 years in Singapore. She moved to Brussels in 2012, work brought her to Tokyo in 2014 and she has been there since. She is pretty vocal about loving it there, calling it "extraordinarily interesting and fun."

Jin also mentioned something else that I thought was great to share: "Reflecting on 30 years since graduating from CC, I would say that today's focus on STEM and the push for students to go into tech education seems to overshadow the power of a liberal arts education. For me, there's no question that the Core and my major in English served me very well in life."

Well said, Jin.

And with that, we come to the end of another *CCT* Class Notes column. Fear not, though, dear readers. Next issue will feature more updates than you could ever hope to read. Your humble correspondent will be reporting from OUR 30TH REUNION! That's right. Thirty years. We're old. Get over it. Until then!

1994

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"*London calling!*" as three classmates from the capital of England have written.

Kathryn Zally shares that "after 17 years living in London, my husband, 6-year-old daughter and 9-year-old cockapoo are moving back to the United States — South Carolina — which is not 'back,' since I grew up in New Jersey, but will let us be closer to family. I'm looking forward to outdoorsy fun, and maybe new professional challenges still to be discovered. Wishing you all the best."

Architect **Tala Mikdashi** GSAPP'98 updates us: "I have been in London for 18 years with my husband and three kids. I left NYC in 2000, spent some years in Paris and then set up my own practice in Greece designing island villas."

Raphael Grunschlag SIPA'95 writes, "I live in London and am a partner at William Blair, advising technology companies and private equity investors. My daughter Maya finished her first year at the Huntsman Program at Penn while my son finished his junior of high school. I continue to interview for the Alumni Representative Committee and find it inspiring to see the talent of students and Columbia going from strength to strength."

CHARLES GRAY '94

Charles Gray '94 (left) and Adam Brothers '94 had lunch on March 6 at Tavern on Jane in NYC.

Back on this side of the pond, another ARC interviewer (alumni interviewers who voluntarily meet with high school applicants to Columbia College and Columbia Engineering), **Adam Brothers,** looks back on his Morningside Heights days: "I really loved my time at Columbia … I think that one of the benefits of the school is that it breeds a survivable student. Anything you wanted to gain, you had to hunt down."

Adam works in finance and lives in Wycoff, N.J., with his son and daughter. He spent time with **Charles Gray** in March when Charles visited NYC from the west coast. (See the nearby photo!)

From Charles: "After a storied career in media, I then did 15 years in local TV news. I am now a web developer in Mesa, Ariz. Still in media, technically — I work for Kim Komando, a radio host who does a weekly tech show. I have lots of nieces and nephews, collectively 'niblings,' a neologism inspired by siblings."

In *New* England, **Michael Cervieri** JRN'02 has found peace (if not necessarily prosperity) along the Connecticut/Rhode Island border, where he's converting 30 acres of woodland into a forest garden and cultural retreat. While he continues to indulge technological solutions for clients both large and small, he prefers spending his days running after two daughters, who debate whether and where unicorns exist. More about him can be found at his eponymous website.

I hope you saw notice of the John Jay Awards Dinner, held on March 1 at Cipriani 42nd Street. **Alicia D. Guevara** was fêted for her work and commitment to Big Brothers Big Sisters of New York City as its CEO.

Celebrating at the dinner was **Phil Winiecki** and his wife, Yumi, who live in Bronxville and have two tween daughters. Phil thought "the John Jay dinner was a terrific event — great venue, delicious food, amazing speakers and excellent opportunity to catch up with fellow Columbians!" including Amy Ahn '93, who was at their table.

Orly Mishan attended the gala with her daughter, Tamara Crawford '26, and caught up with her friend **Jennifer McNeely** GS'99, who is an associate professor and researcher at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine.

As I write this in March, at this time next year we will be gearing up for our 30th College reunion. I didn't attend reunions for the first two decades, but went to the 20th and 25th. The events were well stacked with engaging events, and entertainment for alumni, spouses/guests and children young or old. Instead of a dreaded "note-comparing attitude" of life milestones, our class gathered in a welcoming way … altogether, *collegial.* The weekend was a blast and I have encouraged all my grown children to attend their respective college reunions as much as possible.

Looking forward to seeing you there next year, especially you who have not attended a reunion in a while — or ever!

1995

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1996

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Happy summer, classmates!

Ben Davies is a professor of urology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and chief of the Urology Section at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Hillman Cancer Center. Committed to addressing inequities in health care, Ben co-founded the Urology Health Services Division at Pitt last year in an effort to recruit, develop and retain students who belong to traditionally underrepresented groups in urology, as well as to bolster resources and increase research capacity to improve the delivery, access and quality of urologic treatment. Ben is also leading a study examining how urologists can improve treatment experiences for rural patients.

Avi Green lives with his wife and daughter in Annecy, France, outside Geneva, and runs his consulting business serving universities, researchers and philanthropies around the world. Avi writes that he is having a great time meeting new people, learning new things and eating the food in Europe. He would love to connect with classmates: avi@avigreen.org.

Caleb Weinstein writes that after more than six years of living in Palo Alto, working at Google, spending much time with **Humberto Galleno,** Lareina Yee BC'95, Hilton Romanski '95 and the father of a neighbor, Harry Saal '63, he and his family have returned to London, where they lived 2008–16. Caleb's 14-year-old daughter, Charlotte, is remaining in boarding school in Boston. At Google, where he worked until the end of 2022, Caleb focused on sports and media tech across Cloud and Search. He says he is looking forward to getting season tickets to women's football (or as we still call it here in the United States, soccer), but as dual U.S./U.K. citizens he and his family are debating who to root for in this summer's World Cup: the defending World Cup U.S. National Team or the defending Euro champs, the England Lionesses.

Gregory Peck lives in Sherman Oaks with his family and 12-year-old son, Otis, who is in sixth grade. Gregory owns and operates the Crescent Hotel in Beverly Hills and is otherwise a real estate developer and investor. He spends a lot of time these days coaching his son in Little League, which he says can be a lot of work but is also incredibly fun.

Yannis Macheras earned a degree from Tulane Law and in 1999 began crafting a career in the wireless communications infrastructure ecosystem. He was an executive with American Tower Corp. until 2013, when he was recruited to run a startup communications tower development firm, Parallel Infrastructure. From then until November 2022 Yannis was the CEO of that enterprise, selling it three times, to Lendlease, Apollo and most recently to Harmoni Towers, a portfolio company of Palistar Capital. He is an executive in residence with Palistar, supporting the integration of his business into the acquiring company's operations. Yannis has two daughters and lives in the Charlotte, N.C., area.

Since August 2019, **Abigail Lewis** has been director of The Capitol Applied Learning Labs at Georgetown, an experiential undergraduate program downtown focused on working with students to hone their professional discernment skills. Abigail writes that she credits Columbia for all of her successes, so she happily mentors Columbia students every summer (and observes that they are "way smarter and more amazing than any 20-year-old should be"). Abigail lives in Baltimore with her family.

Taariq Lewis lives and works in Berkeley with his family of "two Taariq clones, aged 3 and 1, causing much drama." He sends out a special thanks to **Bryant Jenkins** and Enrico Marini Fichera GS'95, SEAS'96, who are giving him a lot of fatherly advice as great dads themselves. In addition to Bryant and Enrico, Taariq also sees neighbor Darrell Cohn '97. Taariq writes: "Columbians are everywhere in the Bay Area!"

Ian Lendler has become the creative director at McKinnon Literary, a literary agency that happens to represent a number of Columbia professors and alumni. He is always on the lookout for children's books (writers and illustrators) and adult non-fiction.

Ravi Iyer recently left Meta, where he worked for four and a half years "on pretty much every controversial thing imaginable" to go back to academia. He is the managing director of the Psychology of Technology Institute at USC Neely Center. Ravi recently did a podcast that some of you might be interested in: bit.ly/3Aswuut. He went back to Columbia in April to take part in a symposium, where he discussed the algorithmic management of polarization and violence on social media. Ravi writes that he would love to hear from classmates working on or who have an interest in making technology a better force for good in society. He also writes regularly on Substack, in case folks are interested: psychoftech.substack.com. Ravi and his wife have three children, aged 10, 8 and 1.

> *Ravi Iyer '96 recently left Meta, where he worked for four and a half years "on pretty much every controversial thing imaginable," to go back to academia.*

After living in Brooklyn for more than 20 years, **Dave Hahn** moved with his wife to Los Angeles three years ago so that he could join a private hedge fund based in Orange County as its lead talent acquisition expert. During the pandemic, Dave reconnected with many fellow alums during a regular online poker night he hosted, including Matt Rosenberg '97, Ed Teng SEAS'97 and Mitch Gelber '97. Dave writes that he and Matt can be found on golf courses all around L.A.

Elie Levine and **Jody Levine,** a plastic surgery and dermatology duo, are thrilled to share that after opening their private practice, Plastic Surgery & Dermatology of NYC (35A E. 84th St., New York, NY 10028) in 2011, they have since expanded to two new locations: Dermatology, Laser & Surgery of Flatiron (928 Broadway, Ste 204, New York, NY 10010) and Dermatology, Laser & Surgery of Carnegie Hill (1095 Park Ave., Ste 1A, New York, NY 10128), offering cosmetic surgery, as well as medical and cosmetic dermatology, for all ages.

Cetywa Powell, a photographer and filmmaker, is busy working on a TV series (more when it comes out) and raising her teenage son. Check out Cetywa's beautiful photography: ten8photography.com.

Kunal Jajoo is clinical director of gastroenterology at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. He and his wife have two children, Ellora (15) and Devan (13). He remains in touch with his Hogan 2D suitemates **Marcel Agüeros, Edmund "Eddie" Griffin** and **John Scott.**

Amanda Filley and her husband, Chef Marco Canora, are excited to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their East Village restaurant Hearth this coming November. Amanda writes: "Thanks to our loyal customers and dedicated staff, this little business has weathered a bunch of storms, both literal and figurative, and a pandemic to boot. We hope you'll stop by sometime in the next few months and raise a glass to the health of Hearth with us!"

I hope you are all enjoying summer, finding time to relax and enjoy life in whatever way you can. Thanks for sending in your notes. Please keep them coming! I leave you with this:

"If I can't dance, I don't want to be part of your revolution."

— *Emma Goldman*

1997

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Dear classmates, I hope that you are enjoying summer, and that everyone is in good health. It is my pleasure to present the following updates from our class.

The ever-lovely **Leslie Kendall Dye** lives in New York City with her husband, Kerry; their daughter, Lydia, who is at Professional Performing Arts School; and their opinionated dog, Albert. Leslie is an actress, dancer, freelance essayist, journalist and editor. Her writing has appeared in *The Atlantic, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Los Angeles Review of Books,* Salon, The Millions and others. She is a member of the American Renaissance Theatre Company and is at work on a play and a novel.

Rushika Conroy writes: "I am a pediatric endocrinologist and have a strong interest in childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes. During Covid-19 we saw, and continue to see, an increase in the number of children and adolescents with obesity, and the cases of diabetes, both type 1 and type 2, have increased tremendously. Our type 2 diabetes cases have doubled and across the nation there was a 77 percent increase in pediatric type 2 diabetes in the first year of the pandemic. Type 2 diabetes, when it develops in children, is a much more aggressive disease that when it develops in adults; the rate of complications is higher and they occur earlier, and the progression to needing more and more medication is quicker and higher.

"I wanted families to have a good understanding of the disease and I looked for resources to help them but couldn't find any. I found lots for adults with type 2 diabetes and for families of kids with type 1 diabetes but could not find anything for families of kids with type 2 diabetes, so I made one. It is a quick and easy-to-read guide to what pediatric type 2 diabetes is, how it happens, how you treat it and how we monitor it. I am hoping this will help families better understand the disease and be well equipped to manage their child who has it (type2parentsguide.com)."

As for me, **Kerensa Harrell**, I have been volunteering at my daughter's school here in Florida, both in her kindergarten classroom a few times per week and at all the special events her school organizes for the students (parties, field trips, fundraisers, obstacle course, etc.). Her school has a strict dress code, but on Wednesdays it's always "college T-shirt day," so I get to gleefully dress her in her tiny Columbia University T-shirt!

As I wrap up this column, it is late March and she is rehearsing for her two spring dance recitals: one is a group jazz dance routine to the song "Mama, I'm a Big Girl Now," from the Broadway musical *Hairspray,* and the other is a group acrobatics routine to "Raining Sunshine," from the animated film *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs,* which is such a bright, sweet and uplifting song that I will now cue it as I sign off!

"When you think all hope is gone,
there's a place somewhere beyond.
Take a chance and realize — it's
right before your very eyes.
It's raining sunshine, it's raining
sunshine!
All over mankind — it's raining
sunshine!"

In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen.

1998

Sandie Angulo Chen
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I was sent this note through the Class Notes webform (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note). Give it a try!

"Building on three years of service as executive director and seven years in her role as chief operating officer, **Kate Krauss** took over as CEO of Fair Food Network, a national nonprofit and investor, in January 2023. For more than two decades, Kate has dedicated her professional life to pursuing transformative, actionable solutions to deeply rooted problems. In her new position at the helm of Fair Food Network, she will continue to guide the organization in its commitment to grow community health and wealth through food.

"Kate's career is marked by her efforts toward building a fairer future — one that provides equal access to healthful food, economic opportunities and a sustainable planet. Her work is inspired by her belief in food as a source of joy, a path to justice and a powerful way to create common ground.

"Kate has significantly expanded Fair Food Network's impact during the course of her tenure. Under her leadership, Fair Food Network's Double Up Food Bucks program amplified its reach in Michigan, translating into a tenfold increase in families served, from 30,000 in 2015 to more than 300,000 in 2021. Kate oversaw Fair Food Network's partnership in the launch of the USDA-funded Nutrition Incentive Hub, which supports nutrition incentive programs like Double Up and produces prescription projects across the country. Additionally, she played a critical role in the evolution of Fair Food Network's Fair Food Fund, which redresses racial and gender-based inequities by providing catalytic capital and business assistance to entrepreneurs who are often overlooked by traditional investors. She was a key part of expanding the fund's focus from supporting small regional farms in the Northeast to investing in a more expansive range of food-related businesses around the country. Kate's leadership has also transformed Fair Food Network as an organization: Her work has grown the organization's budget nearly fivefold, developed critical operational infrastructure and diversified funding sources."

Congratulations to Kate on her promotion, and kudos for all her great work.

I wasn't able to attend our 25-year reunion, held on campus June 1–3. If you were there, please send me your stories via email or the Class Notes webform mentioned at the top of the column. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

1999

Lauren Gershell
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Many thanks to all of you who have submitted news recently; I was delighted to receive the following updates.

Jen Lin-Liu JRN'00, an author and chef, moved back to the United States after almost two decades based overseas (mostly in China, but also in Havana, Cuba). She has settled in Washington, D.C., and is the events director for Chang Chang, a new Chinese restaurant in Dupont Circle. She's also working on a new book about a Chinese-American chef who gained prominence in the 1940s and invented the phrase "stir-fry." You can follow her Instagram feed @jenlinliu for updates on her writing and cooking life.

Author and chef Jen Lin-Liu '99, JRN'00 has settled in Washington, D.C., and is the events director for Chang Chang, a new Chinese restaurant in Dupont Circle.

Renee Jackson is the chief legal and people officer at Clutter. After more than 10 years in San Francisco, she and her partner, Jamie, recently moved to New Hampshire to be closer to her family. Along with **Emily Roller, Rose Jackson** and **Trinke VonBrinton** (née Vaughan), Renee visited Columbia earlier this year for the annual women's basketball alumnae weekend. She noted that the teammates remain best friends after all these years and were thrilled with the success of this year's Lady Lions basketball team!

Ramzi Kassem LAW'04 is on leave from his teaching and clinical practice at the CUNY School of Law for a period of service as a senior policy advisor for Immigration at the White House Domestic Policy Council. In this role, Ramzi works to support the Biden-Harris agenda across a range of immigration issues.

Erika Jaeggli (née Moravec) teaches art at the University of Texas at Dallas. Her work was selected for the most recent issue of *New American Paintings.*

Congratulations to all of you on these impressive accomplishments and updates!

Please share your news, updates, and College memories and stories with me. Contact me at the address at the top of the column, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent right to *CCT* using the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Just make sure the photo is at least 750 kb in size and features at least two CC alumni (or one for Just Married! as long as that alum is a member of the couple and is featured).

2000

Kavita Shah Bafana
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[Editor's note: *CCT* welcomes **Kavita Shah Bafana** to the role of class correspondent!]

Hello, fellow members of the Class of '00! For those who don't remember me, I majored in art history and economics and went to work in advertising. Much has evolved in the last 23 years, and I now live in New Jersey and work in admissions at Trinity School in New York City. I plan to contact you periodically to collect news and updates about your personal and/or professional lives. I am excited to reconnect with everyone! Thank you!

Veronica Deleon tied the knot with Jeffrey Warmke in 2022 and is now known as Veronica Deleon-Warmke. She has also started a job in the Operating Room in Texas, and she absolutely loves it.

Congratulations, Veronica!

Natalia Mehlman Petrzela, an associate professor of history at the New School in New York, has been making waves as a scholar in 2023. She is not only publishing her work in peer-reviewed publications but is also presenting her research through podcasts and other media outlets. Natalia is also a fitness instructor and her latest book, *Fit Nation: The Gains and Pains of America's Exercise Obsession,* was recently published.

Lauren Hay (née Feldman) writes, "In May 2022 I accepted the position of chief information officer of a national mental health-focused nonprofit, Fountain House, which pioneered the clubhouse model of psychosocial rehabilitation for people living with serious mental illness. It will celebrate its 75th anniversary later this year.

"**Bob Hay** and I have been married for almost 15 years and have two daughters, Audrey (12) and Molly (9). We have been living in Kew Gardens, Queens, for 10 years and love being so close to woodsy Forest Park but just a subway ride away from Manhattan."

Since this is my first time doing this column, I don't have much more to share. However, I encourage all of you to send your updates via email or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. The more, the better! Please don't hesitate to share your stories, news about travel and/or thoughts on experiences you would like to share with classmates, whether small or big.

2001

Jonathan Gordin
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Please send me your latest news so I can include it in a future issue. You can contact me via email or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

2002

Sonia Hirdaramani
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Emily Erstling was named partner at her entertainment law firm, Levine, Plotkin & Menin, where she focuses mostly on representing clients in the Broadway theater industry.

Rena Scott is an international arbitration practitioner and co-leader of Orrick's Geneva office, where she recently joined the global partnership. An ardent supporter of the Equal Representation in Arbitration Pledge, she is also the Geneva Ambassador for the Arbitration Lunch Match initiative, supporting women in arbitration.

After eight years at the UC Investments Office, **Albert Lee SEAS'02** joined APG Asset Management US in December as a senior portfolio manager on the Americas Infrastructure team. He shared more big news: "Welcomed our daughter, Colette Yuna Joanie Lee, on December 20. Big brother Aidan (5) is taking his promotion very well."

Please share your news and updates via the email address at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple and featured, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2003

Michael J. Novielli
mjn29@columbia.edu

We thoroughly enjoyed seeing so many of you at our recent 20th reunion. A big thanks to our former class president **Kimberly Grant** and former University Senator **Tamar Simon** for co-chairing our Reunion Committee with me. A shoutout also to the entire committee: **Sam Arora, Jennifer Baskin, Sabine Bejori, Katie Benvenuto, Marva Brown, Nadege Fleurimond, Michael Foss, Amy Greenstein, Marjorie Hernandez, Claudia Huerta, Scott Hunter, Kimberly Kalmanson, Cristina Monterrey, Rachel Neuhut, Carter Reum, Nicole Washington** and **AnnaMaria White.** Special thanks to Sam for lending us his strategic communication expertise to help with outreach.

A few updates — and more to come in the next few issues:

Francis Lora writes, "Not only does this year mark our 20th college reunion, but also this year, on August 1, my wife, Jennifer Guerrero BC'03, Mercy College '07 and I celebrate our 15-year wedding anniversary: We met as freshmen during Orientation on the Circle Line cruise and have been inseparable ever since — a real Barnard/Columbia couple! Now we celebrate our anniversary with our children, Alejandro (12 in August) and Gabriel (7) as we look forward to many, many more years! Our family thanks Columbia for the fateful chance meeting that set us on the course of the adventure of our lives!"

Kambiz Eli Akhavan writes, "I joined the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson as a partner in its renowned Tax & Private Client Group. My practice focuses on representing domestic and international ultra-high-net-worth individuals and families in their tax, estate and asset protection planning."

Katherine Haenschen writes, "I live in Brookline, Mass., with my husband and two kids, aged 3 and 1. I'm an assistant professor in the communication studies and political science departments at Northeastern."

Renowned mixologist **Don Lee,** formerly of PDT, has created cocktail and wine menus for the intermission and main lobby bars at David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center.

Please send me your news by email or through the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Please send photos right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

Heather Kompanek (née Otrando) got married in early June 2022 at the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx, and later that month she and her husband, Chris, moved from Hell's Kitchen to Harlem, just east of Morningside Park. "It's fun being so close to Columbia," Heather writes. "I've definitely walked across campus more times in the last nine months than any other time since graduation!"

Julia de Roulet and **Dan de Roulet Jr.** are moving from San Francisco back to New York. Julia recently became licensed as a marriage and family therapist in California and will get her license in New York. Dan will work at the software company he founded, Knowify. They look forward to reconnecting with other New York alums!

Marina Severinovsky writes, "I am now into my second year as head of sustainability, North America, for Schroders Asset Management. It is an exciting and interesting time to be leading environmental, social and governance investing in the United States for a U.K./Europe-based firm, given all the things going on in the world. I am proud of Columbia for having many strong sustainability programs now, at the undergraduate level as well at the various graduate schools, and I have given my time as an alumna for networking and mentoring with students in those programs.

"On the personal front, my husband and I are planning to take our son (12) and daughter (8) on a family trip to Kenya this summer!"

Lindsey Harding's first novel, *Pilgrims 2.0,* will be out this fall: " … [a] novel following four passengers on a luxury cruise line that promises complete reinvention through plastic surgery."

Sushil Cheema JRN'06 co-wrote a mid-grade children's book with Broadway star Mandy Gonzalez, whose credits include starring roles in *Hamilton, In the Heights* and *Wicked.* The book, *In the Mix,* is the third in a series called *Fearless;* each book features one of four young friends who star in their own Broadway show and who go on adventures together. *In the Mix* features Hudson Patel, an Indian-American boy who loves baking as much as he loves Broadway. It's a story about friendship, family and following your passions.

That's all for this issue. Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always great, but please reach out to share fun anecdotes, memories or any other fun updates! You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Please send photos right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

2005

Sallie Touma
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Hi, Class of 2005! Happy 40th birthday to those celebrating! I would love to hear about your latest professional and personal updates (ChatGPT helped me write this sentence!). Please text me at 516-368-6001 or email me at the address above.

Kunal Gupta has an app that helps businesses launch their own subscription box clubs: Withfriends. He also helps run a kung fu school and is helping his friend start a ChatGPT-like thing for patient onboarding at health care practices. It is going surprisingly well, he says.

Jackie Sergie (a.k.a. **Jacqueline Kamrath**) has embarked on a new chapter in life! Though she's played the violin and sung from a young age, she says she put a lot on hold for residency and to start a family. With the pandemic and everything going on in the world, she recently decided that life is just too short for dreams deferred. So, she is pursuing a longtime wish, writing and recording her own songs. For her 40th birthday, she hopes to release a folky EP. Her second single, "Liberal Cowboy," dropped on streaming platforms this past spring.

LAUREN STAIR

Evette Stair '05 celebrated her birthday at a party with her husband, Gordon Radlein '06, on March 24 in Jamaica.

On April 3, **David Pullins** opened the exhibition "Juan de Pareja, Afro-Hispanic Painter" at The Met, where he is associate curator, responsible for 17th- and 18th-century Spanish, Italian and French painting.

Brianne Bergson and her husband lead a thriving film and music production company, BriGuel. She says she feels so grateful to create daily and to do what she loves. Their films are award winning and have played around the world, and their music has millions of streams and plays within the films they produce. They have two daughters. "Life is really beautiful!"

Evette Stair writes. "Celebrated my 40th birthday in Negril, Jamaica, with friends and family including my husband, Gordon Radlein '06."

See the nearby photo of Evette and Gordon!

As for me, I was excited to recently tutor students remotely in math in Milan, Paris and Dubai. I also compiled nature photos in a booklet, *Nature Through the Lens of a Mathematician.*

2006

Andrew Stinger
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As the months get warmer, I often find myself thinking back with fondness on the summer before our final year as undergraduates. I spent the weeks between semesters as a summer RA in Schapiro Hall, braving a commute to White Plains for an internship. The trek every Monday–Friday was worth it, if only to ensure I might kick back on a restaurant patio with **Rob Sorabella** for a catch-up over dinner (and, most likely, margaritas at The Heights afterward) or to support my friends as they staged a production of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure* in Riverside Park. It brings me similar joy to hear all the lovely updates and successes from our class, which I'm privileged to share.

Emily Hawkins has joined the Corporate Communications team at Google, leading diversity, equity and inclusion public relations. She shares that it is a dream opportunity in alignment with her experience, passion and purpose. Prior to commencing her new role, Emily made a trip to Los Angeles, where she reunited with several other Lions, including Adrienne Moran Gurley '02, Aaron Edmonds '09, Cat Miles '04, Maud Arnold '08, Angelo Pullen '05, **Simone Gaines** and Ronald Chatters '04. (See the nearby photo!) I had the privilege of grabbing a quick dinner with Emily in March, and her joy for her new career chapter was absolutely radiant.

Sam Schon shares: "I'm still in Houston, wrapping up my second annual Energy Outlook with the Exxon Mobil team. Working on the Outlook this year has brought back many memories of Professor Mark von Hagen's wonderful class 'The Rise and Fall of the Soviet Union' (and sitting near **David Plotz** and **Morgan Sellers**)."

Mohammad F. Ali is a gastroenterologist practicing in Upstate New York. He recently joined Oswego Health as its director of endoscopy and associate medical director of gastroenterology.

Teddy Diefenbach continues to make waves in the videogame industry. They founded a videogame studio and recently released their game We Are OFK on PlayStation and Nintendo. The game stars a virtual indie pop band, for which Teddy is also the lead singer on recordings and in stage shows.

Rachel Silverstein has been named a 2023 Elevate Prize winner. The Elevate Prize recognizes Rachel as a global leader for her impact as a social entrepreneur with Miami Waterkeeper. Rachel is one of a dozen nonprofit leaders who will be aided by the Elevate Prize Foundation with funding, visibility and other resources. [Editor's note: See "Lions."]

Francesca de Quesada Covey has been appointed chief of economic innovation and development officer for Miami-Dade County. In this role, Francesca (known to many of us as Cesi) will leverage her track record of engagement in the public sector and success in the technology industry to champion innovation, nurture local workforce talent and support small

Left to right, Adrienne Moran Gurley '02, Aaron Edmonds '09, Cat Miles '04, Maud Arnold '08, Emily Hawkins '06, Angelo Pullen '05, Simone Gaines '06 and Ronald Chatters '04 had a casual gathering in Los Angeles on January 15.

businesses in the county. Cesi and I spent some time together on the partnerships team at Meta several years ago, and I'm thrilled to see her continue building bridges through technological innovation.

Rachel Lesser has been a classics professor at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania since 2016. Last fall, she achieved two wonderful milestones: She was awarded tenure and published her first book, *Desire in the Iliad: The Force That Moves the Epic and Its Audience.* Rachel and her wife, Elana, have a lovely son, Isaac (3), and welcomed their second child in March.

On December 3, **Jay Wong** married Shawn Lamb at the Lanikuhonua Cultural Institute on Oahu, Hawaii. The new husbands split their time between Toronto and Denver, and were recently the subjects of a beautiful profile in *The New York Times* (bit.ly/3ZLM3rd).

I wish all of the spectacular members of the Class of 2006 a lovely summer and autumn, and send gratitude to the classmates who took the time to share their latest and greatest. We love to see you thrive!

2007

David Donner Chait
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I hope everyone is doing well, and thanks so much to everyone who shared updates.

Lauren Zimmerman shares, "I was elevated to partner at my law firm, Selendy Gay Elsberg (a litigation boutique firm) in December."

Peter Luccarelli and his wife, Stephanie, welcomed their second son, William Luccarelli, this past fall. Big brother PJ is thrilled with the new addition … so far. In 2021, Peter, Stephanie and the family moved to Tampa. Peter is a partner at Sisco-Law, where he works in litigation defending businesses and professionals in civil, criminal and administrative matters. Stephanie is writing a book with designer Natalie Papier, *Home Is Where the Art Is,* due out in fall 2024. The entire family looks forward to seeing friends in Central Florida and on their return trips to NYC.

As co-founder and president of ettitude, **Kat Dey** BUS'14 (née Vorotova) is excited about her company's continued innovations in the next-gen material space. Ettitude has released plant-based silk and plant-based cashmere, which save 82 percent of CO_2 and 71 percent water versus conventional textiles."

Kasia Nikhamina writes, "My essay 'What Else Can I Give You' — about losing my mom to Covid-19 — was published in Roxane Gay's The Audacity in October: bit.ly/3KzchYC. A second essay, 'COVID: Theme and Escalations,' was published in the Fall 2022 issue of *INTIMA: A Journal of Narrative Medicine:* bit.ly/3AeHDPD. I also write a TinyLetter, 'Extraordinary Time.' You can read recent ones, and subscribe, at kasianikhamina.com."

Ritwik Banerji recently started a position as assistant professor of anthropology at Iowa State University. He says, "If for some reason you find yourself embarked upon a long journey on I-80, don't hesitate to get in touch."

Please send me your latest news, and I'll include it in a future issue. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

2008

Bradley Blackburn
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Hope you're having a great summer, Class of '08, and that you were able to make it to Morningside Heights for our 15th reunion! We welcome your reunion stories and other news for the next issue. In the meantime, some updates from classmates:

Lauren Fornoles (née La Torre) TC'11 tied the knot with Ed Fornoles on July 17, 2022, at The Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco. In attendance were her sister and matron of honor, Jacquelyn Ravichandran '10, TC'12; brother-in-law Arvind Ravichandran '09, LAW'12; and best friends **Irina Ikonsky, Chris Harris SEAS'08, Amber Moorer** and Beth Greene. Lauren's mother and father, Elaine and Jack La Torre, who visited their daughters often at Columbia for delicious brunches at John Jay, were proud to walk Lauren down the aisle among family and friends. See nearby, and "Just Married!", for photos.

Mark Clemente recently moved back to New York City after living in Singapore for seven years. He says he's looking forward to being back in the city and reconnecting with alumni friends. Mark has been working mainly in the sports business and entertainment space, with experience in brand marketing, event management and client/account management. Now that he's back stateside, he's exploring job opportunities and would love to get in touch with other Lions who have worked in similar fields.

Marissa Lalli was elevated to partner at the law firm WilmerHale at the beginning of the year. She practices in Boston focusing on intellectual property litigation and complex commercial disputes.

After nearly a decade spent on the high seas working on sailing yachts in the Mediterranean, Caribbean and Baltic, **Ian Mactavish** has come ashore and put down roots in Victoria, British Columbia, where he and his wife are raising a baby boy, Leonidas. Ian is a captain with BC's oil spill response organization, Western Canada Marine Response Corp., and a crew member with the Pacific Pilotage Authority, helping to ensure the safe transit of commercial ships through BC's marine environment. Ian says he is always happy to reconnect with classmates who might find themselves in the area: "Look me up if you are ever on Vancouver Island. I love showing off this special corner of the world."

Carmen Thoms (née Ballard) also wrote from Canada with news. She lives in Toronto, Ontario, and on July 9, 2022, gave birth to a girl.

Wishing you and your little one all the best, Carmen, and congrats on joining the parent club!

2009

Shira Burton
shira.burton@gmail.com

Hope everyone is having a relaxing summer! Here are some updates from classmates.

Lucy Chen writes from Paris: "I came here to work in solar in 2011, then quit my job and started training to be a chef. Worked for Frenchie Hospitality Group from line cook to sous chef, was hired to open the second restaurant of the Bao Family (called Gros Bao) and then was the executive chef of the Bao Family for a year. I left earlier this year and am an aspiring restaurateur."

In addition to recently becoming a French citizen, Lucy is buying a café, which she hopes to open in the next year. She is also doing restaurant consulting, mostly regarding the interfacing of immigrant cooks and the French restaurant system, with the goal of changing some of the fundamental issues of running restaurants (low pay for and poor treatment of cooks, limiting food waste, making food affordable and so on).

Cindy Horowitz welcomed a daughter, Charlotte, in December 2021.

Chantee Dempsey Morin and her husband, Nicholas Morin, welcomed their second child, Nathaniel "Nate" James Morin on August 29, 2022. Madeline "Maddie" loves being a big sister.

Just Married!

CCT welcomes wedding photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum and is featured. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: **college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo**. Congratulations!

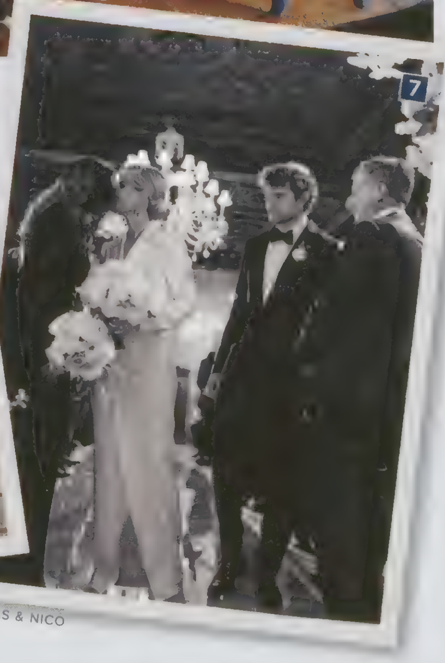
RACHEL BUCKLEY

JOSEPH HALL PHOTOGRAPHY

ALYSSA MALOOF

JENNIFER MIHALYI

JUSTINE BERGES



ANDREAS & NICO

1. Nathan Berger '04 and Joe Anderson were married at The Barn at Flanagan Farm in Buxton, Maine, on July 23, 2022. Joining the grooms (center) were, left to right: Jon Sabatini '04, Chira Cassel BC'04, officiant Pooja Agarwal '02, Matt McAndrews '04, Sofia Berger '01, Kate Cortesi '01 and Ben Wheeler '01.

2. Joining Sue Yang-Krochmal '10 and Gabriel Krochmal at their September 3, 2022, wedding in Senglea, Malta, were, left to right: Elina Kanak, Daniel Kanak '10, Matthew Harold '10, Kunaal Sharma '10, Alex Yagoda '10, Valerie Sapozhnikova '10, Andrew Gallina, Tanvi Gupta '14 and Nirav Shah SEAS'09.

3. Nikki Bourassa '13 and Noah Whitehead SEAS'13 married in Philadelphia on August 13, 2022.

4. Lauren Fornoles '08 (née La Torre) and Ed Fornoles married at The Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco on July 17, 2022.

5. Natalie Ambrose DeMuth '18 and Turner DeMuth '18 celebrated their July 23, 2022, wedding at Long Hollow Ranch in Sisters, Ore., with Zach Dansby SEAS'18, Mark Flynn '18, Dave Donovan '18, Harrisen Egly SEAS'18, Tyler Schonewolf '19, Lord Hyeamang '18, Adam Cline '16, Liam Talty '18, Reid Stables '18, Maddie Gott '18, Ryan Marks '17, Natalie Neshat '18, Holly Neshat '18, Maeve Doherty '18, Ava Ligh '99, Peter Ligh LAW'01, Carli Topping '19, Xi Bovell '18, Emily Johnson '21, Laine Parsons '19, Zach Morant '18, Alex Bangerl '18, Zach Adler SEAS'18, Kynan Rocks '19, Amaris Hemmings '19, Anjuli DeWakar DeMuth '15, Garrett DeMuth '15, Ike Muzikowski '15, Emma Anderson '19, Kerry Manion '18, Gil Hong '18, Clarissa Macias BC'19, Jim Black and Caroline Militello '18.

6. Cecilia Sturt '22 (neé Lee) and Edward Sturt '22 married in Miami Beach on January 27 at Saint Patrick Catholic Church.

7. Dr. Jennifer Ashton '91 married Tom Werner on November 5 at The Harmonie Club in NYC. With them were her daughter, Chloe Ashton, and her son, Alex Ashton '20.

CHRIS HARRIS SEAS'08

Irina Ikonsky '08 (left) and Jacquelyn Ravichandran '10 (née La Torre) flanked Lauren Fornoles '08 (née La Torre) at Fornoles' July 17, 2022, wedding at The Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco.

Maria Insalaco writes, "My husband and I welcomed our son, Theodore (Teddy!), in October! We're having a blast getting to know the little guy!"

Naomi Grewal (née Sparks) is married to Gurpartap "Sunny" Grewal BUS'13. Naomi writes: "Sunny and I met at Columbia in 2009. We had our third child, Nora, in December. She joins sister Sonia (6) and brother Ronan (4). I work in tech at Workday as director of research and am on the faculty of the University of Southern California's Department of Psychology. Sunny is an entrepreneur. We live in the Bay Area with our family and enjoy keeping in touch with classmates!"

Finally, **Brendan Ballou** is a federal prosecutor and served as special counsel for private equity at the Department of Justice. In his new book, *Plunder: Private Equity's Plan to Pillage America,* Brendan explains what private equity firms are and how they're transforming America by buying everything from nursing homes and mobile homes, to veterinary clinics, retailers, for-profit colleges and prison phone companies. These firms often create terrible crises, and without intervention, they are poised to reshape America in this decade the way that "Big Tech" did in the last decade, and the way subprime lenders did before that. Brendan's book lays out the dangers that the industry poses and, importantly, a specific agenda for how we can stop its worst abuses. *Plunder* was released on May 2.

As always, send me news by email or use the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. *CCT* also welcomes photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni for Class Notes, or one CC alum — if a member of the couple and featured — for the "Just Married!" section: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2010

Billy Organek
william.a.organek@gmail.com

Hi, Class of 2010! I hope you've all had a nice start to the summer.

Jehan Sparks started a position as a senior user experience researcher at Meta, working on Instagram. She says is looking forward to connecting with alumni in the San Francisco area.

Congratulations, Jehan!

We also received a nice wedding photo from **Sue Yang-Krochmal,** along with a promise from her for a future text update. As Sue was president of the Class of 2010, I think we can count on her word. See "Just Married!" for the photo.

Thanks for sharing, Sue, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Please send me your news by email or through the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Please send photos right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top before you submit to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

Keep on doing great things, CC'10, and if you can spare a few moments, share with the rest of the class what you've been up to! Even if you share on Instagram, where you know the UX will be great because of Jehan, please also share here — consider *CCT* the old-fashioned social media!

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

Sun's out, Twenty-Eleven! We hope your summer is off to an excellent start. We've got a short list of updates this season, so we hope everyone is OK! (Your class correspondents get a little worried when we don't hear from you. Call, email, text ... OK? Anytime works for us, really. Just say hi. You know, classmates really want to know how you're doing. Even just a hello — it's fine to just say hello! OK, we'll stop now, but you get the point. Say hi!)

For our co-correspondent **Sean Udell,** life is sweet, as he has finally completed his medical training! After one year of post-baccalaureate coursework at Bryn Mawr, four years of medical school at Penn and four more years of psychiatry residency at Penn's health system, Sean has been released into the world as a full-fledged physician! Sean and his husband, Jonathan Jenkins, are moving to Park City, Utah, this summer in order to live their full *The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City* fantasy. There, Sean will be a staff psychiatrist at Intermountain Health. When he is not at work, Sean looks forward to spending time with his family — who have all somehow relocated to Utah — and restarting all the outdoor hobbies he had enjoyed when living in Denver more than a decade ago.

As residency was wrapping up, Sean had a little extra time on his hands for reading, and he was thrilled to see **Rachel Heng**'s piece in *The New York Times'* Modern Love section on February 24 (bit.ly/3muqv4W). The incredibly moving essay inspired Sean to read Rachel's first book, *Suicide Club,* and he is excited to dive into her newest work, *The Great Reclamation,* which was published in March.

We are very happy for Rachel's success in her literary endeavors!

Our classmates' creativity abounds. **Lety ElNaggar** won the UK Songwriting Competition in the R&B/Soul category with the song "Tell Me Again." The track was a team effort from back2prod, which supports artists to write and produce genre-blending music with a focus on sonic quality.

Congrats, Lety!

In her own year of writing, **Annie Tan** participated in the VONA Writing Winter Intensive, Tin House Winter Workshop and a Vermont Studio Center writing residency. This July she will be in Portland for the Tin House Summer Workshop to revise her memoir. In March, Annie was featured on the PBS show *Stories from the Stage,* telling a story about her immigrant family hustle. You can see her on the episode "Defining Moments," online now. Annie says she is excited to keep telling her family stories and to see you all in New York City.

Nicole Catá — another literarily inclined classmate who was an English major — continues to thrive as an attorney. She started a role as legislative counsel at New York City Council in February. Prior, she and her husband took a long-awaited trip to Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. She says she was particularly excited to visit the Temple of Literature in Hanoi.

We wish you the happiest summer, friends. And don't forget to email with updates! And call your mother!

2012

Pat Blute
pblute@gmail.com

Liz: "What a year, huh?"
Jack: "Lemon, it's February."

Well, it's officially been more than a decade since *30 Rock* ended and we all took swag from the Hulu reps in Lerner. And throughout all that time, from successful legal petitions to thriving careers in editing, tech and beyond, the Class of 2012 has had a significant impact!

Chuck Roberts, now of Falls Church, Va., has authored a successful pro bono petition for certiorari in the Supreme Court and upgraded with U.S. Soccer as a regional referee.

Anna Cooperberg JRN'13 has created her happiness as a senior editor at Hay House, where she edits books and card decks in the metaphysical space, from astrology and tarot to psychic mediums and channeling — and everything in between!

John Nordin is thriving in Brooklyn with his wife, Amanda, and Henry (1), working in tech and enjoying beautiful Prospect Park on bike rides.

Kenny Durell has embarked on adventures that he had only dreamt about before getting laid off from Google Maps in January. His message to us is simple: "I hope you don't wait too long to take the trip, start the project and so on that you've dreamt about. Life moves fast. And we're technically no longer young alumni, so if you have the means and will, get out there! I haven't regretted it yet. These days, the only place I seem to reconnect with classmates is on Instagram (or on the G or L train). A very millennial sentence, but do reach out if it's been a while and you want to catch up!"

As we move forward into the next era, it's important to stay connected. Don't forget your other millennial superpower: that you can still use the phone to call an old friend. Look forward to keeping in touch. :)

2013

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

After spending her pregnancy in California and Michigan, **Bhavna Vashisht** and her husband welcomed their first child — a girl — and moved back to the city.

Congratulations, Bhavna!

John Kenney married his wife, Amanda, on July 9, 2022. They live in Washington, D.C., where John is an attorney for Wilson Sonsini in the Appellate Litigation Group.

Shannon Lee recently moved to Amsterdam and released a CD in Japan of music for violin and piano with pianist Jessica Osborne from NYC, the Sendai International Music Competition on the Fontec recording label.

Last August, **Nikki Bourassa** and **Noah Whitehead SEAS'13** exchanged vows in Philadelphia, surrounded by family, friends, their dog Pan and Ben Franklin, who was able to make it in person. Almost two 8s worth of the Columbia crew attended, with honorary coxswain **Serena Bose** (née Dasani), Sylvie Krekow BC'13, Lily Keane BC'13, **Becca Long** (née Randall), Natalie Rutherford BC'13, **Caitlin Shufelt**, **Samantha Warren**, John Clapp SEAS'14, **Mike Donohue**, Connor Jones SEAS'14, Dan Kolbe '14 and **Alexander Simmonds.** See "Just Married!" for a photo of the couple.

Congratulations!

After nearly a decade as a freelance journalist, **Garnet Henderson** has joined Rewire News Group as the publication's senior multiplatform reporter, covering reproductive and sexual health with a focus on abortion access. In addition to writing, she will be developing a podcast for Rewire. Last year, Garnet was one of the inaugural grantees of the International Women's Media Fund's Reproductive Rights Reporting Fund for an investigative project that was co-published in *The Nation* and on her independent podcast, ACCESS.

Phillip Jerez was recently hired as deputy director of engagement for the 21st U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy. Previously, Phillip served as political director for the last two Democratic nominees for governor of Florida, as an aide to Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Fla.) and began his career as a high school teacher in Miami with Teach For America.

Emmanuel Arnaud recently joined the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law as an assistant professor on the tenure track. There, he teaches courses on criminal law, race and the law, and the U.S. Territories. Prior to joining Cardozo, Emmanuel spent several years in practice having been an appellate public defender in big law, and served as a judicial law clerk at both the federal district and court of appeals level. Just before joining Cardozo, he spent a year as a visiting assistant professor at Cornell Law School.

On a personal note, my husband, Andrew Wood '14, and I welcomed our second child — a boy — in January. We're enjoying this phase as a family of four and looking forward to spending warmer days at the beach this summer here in Los Angeles. I am still chief operating officer at Pietra, a venture-backed, Series B tech company focused on e-commerce for the creator economy.

Please send me your latest news, and I'll include it in a future issue. You can contact me at the email at the top of the column, or via the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

2014

Rebecca Schechter Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

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2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Hello Class of 2015! Hope you find time to take advantage of the good weather during the next few months! Here are some updates.

Percy Stubbs and Molly Lo Re BC'17 were to be married in May. They met doing a production of *Titus Andronicus* at Columbia with the King's Crown Shakespeare Troupe in 2014. While perhaps not Shakespeare's most romantic work, it started a relationship that has led to nearly a decade together.

Kang Kang has been pursuing a Ph.D. in comparative literature at Northwestern since 2020.

Samara Trilling writes, "**Ben Barg** and I moved to Boston last summer when I started law school. If you know any great hiking spots in the area, hit us up!"

As always, classmates want to hear from you! Please be sure to submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* Class Notes webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos of 750 kb or larger that feature at least two CC alumni — or one CC alum, as long as a member of the couple and featured, for "Just Married!" — are welcome, too! Send those right to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

Hey CC'16. This past year I co-wrote and produced a film with **Sophia Horowitz,** and we were blessed that

JONATHAN ENCARNACION

At a February 2 film screening at the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco were, left to right: Jules Horowitz '11, Lily Liu-Krason '16, Eli Haims '16, Sophia Horowitz '16, Chloe Shih '15, Maud Arnold '08 and Sonya Clark-Herrera.

so many Lions came out to support our San Francisco screening in February (see the nearby photo!). We're hoping to have screenings in Los Angeles and New York later in the year so please do reach out if you're in either of those cities. I would love to see you there, share what we've been working on and reconnect.

It's always really nice to reunite. I saw **Sonya Li** and **Angel Wang** in L.A. recently. They both live in San Francisco and said they would love to meet up with any of you!

Speaking of reuniting, please submit your Columbia Reunion photos to *CCT* using the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top of the form before submitting to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

Lastly and most importantly: **Jenny Liu** recently attended **Amar Dhingra SEAS'16**'s wedding. See the photo online in "Just Married!" (college.columbia.edu/cct).

Please continue to write in when you see classmates (email me or use the Class Notes webform, columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note), submit your photos to *CCT* using the webform noted above, and as always, send me your updates, big or small. This column is infinitely more interesting and only possible with your voices. I've also heard success stories from a few of you who shared an update and a connection happened after!

2017

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

Chris George and **Jonathan Koptyev** recently matched into dermatology residency at Stanford University and Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell respectively. Chris was to graduate from SUNY Downstate, and Jonathan from Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, this past May.

Max Fiest LAW'20 shares: "For the last two years, my firm (Mayer Brown) has defended 10 family members from a predatory investor who is trying to steal the family's home, property that has been in our clients' possession for four generations. I've led the defense of this action: I've written some 15 briefs, performed four oral arguments, negotiated with opposing counsel and communicated with our clients. So far, we have secured several orders commanding the investor to produce evidence he wrongfully withheld, and a court order prohibiting the investor from unilaterally demolishing the property.

"For nearly four years, the investor has locked our clients out of their family home. Months back, we discovered that the investor had demolished and renovated the property without our clients' knowledge or consent. Recently, we learned that the investor has allowed his employee to live in the renovated portions of the property, and had actively concealed this tenant's presence from our clients. On March 30, I was to co-lead a proceeding (i.e., a mini-trial) to hold the investor in contempt for his actions. If we succeed, the investor could be fined, forced to pay the reasonable value of our attorneys' fees and/or imprisoned for a period of time. [As I write this,] we should know the judge's ruling by mid-April.

"In October, I was selected to receive the City Bar Justice Center's Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award. I was selected, alongside 11 other recipients, from more than 1,800 volunteers with the CBJC.

"In April, my law firm was to be co-honored [with The Bank of New York Mellon Corp.] by the CBJC as a pro bono firm of the year, in large part because of the work I've done for our clients.

"Before the summer is out, we hope to have briefed and argued our motion for summary judgment and — finally — get a court to declare that our clients own their family home."

Karisma Price shares: "My debut collection of poetry, *I'm Always So Serious,* was published in February and was reviewed in *The New York Times* twice: first in the article 'From Newcomers and Veterans, Four New Poetry Books Worth Your Time' on March 7 (bit.ly/3Mnyifn), and second, as one of the books in *The New York Times Book Review*'s 'Editor's Choice' on March 23 (bit.ly/40XVTYe)."

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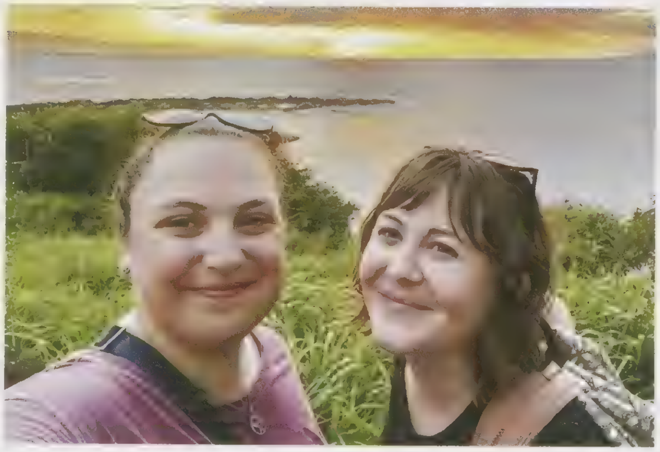
JULIA ZEH '18

Julia Zeh '18 (left) and Briley Lewis '18 on vacation in Maui on February 18.

2018

Alexander Birkel
and Maleeha Chida
ab4065@columbia.edu
mnc2122@columbia.edu

In the last few months, **Richard Nederlander** graduated from Vanderbilt with a Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering and started work at Blue Origin as a specialty sciences engineer for radiation testing.

Congratulations, Richard!

Briley Lewis and **Julia Zeh** reunited in Los Angeles, where Briley attends grad school, and Maui, where Julia was doing fieldwork on whales, this past spring. They are both in their fifth year of grad school — finally almost to the Ph.D. finish line! See the nearby photo!

Skye Grayson, who studied sociology, is a comedian and runs a show called *Mishegoss Comedy.* Skye and co-producer Lily Lester, an NYU alum, were recently selected for the Reykjavik Fringe Festival. This opportunity, Skye notes, is "my first international festival." Congratulations! More information: mishegosscomedy.com, instagram.com/mishegosscomedy, instagram.com/skyegrayson.lol and timeout.com/newyork/comedy/mishegoss-comedy.

Tiffany Troy's poetry chapbook, *When Ilium Burns,* is out now. Noted poet Donald Revell writes, "I had never realized, viscerally, the havoc at the heart of piety nor felt, on my own flesh, the loving burden borne by Aeneas as he carried his father away from the burning towers, until I read [*When Ilium Burns*] … There is a new kind of heroism here, and it is thrilling."

Please stay connected! You can send updates to Class Notes by emailing us at the addresses at the top of the column or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent through the Class Notes photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top of the form before hitting that "submit" button to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

2019

Tj Aspen Givens and
Emily Gruber
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emilyannegruber@gmail.com

We join the class in mourning the unfathomable loss of Jon Carlo Dominguez '21, a campus leader and cherished friend. Jon Carlo's contributions to Columbia ranged from musical groups to the Eric H. Holder Jr. Initiative for Civil and Political Rights to mentorship programs. In addition to this deep engagement in our community, Jon Carlo extended kindness to all on campus, always remembering to wave or say hello on College Walk. He made us feel that he was glad we were at Columbia, and that will be forever remembered. We are thinking of Jon Carlo's loved ones and all of you during this difficult time.

Members of the Class of 2019 have shared the following updates:

Sarah Fornshell GSAS'20 recently completed her 2L year at The Ohio State University's Moritz College of Law and has been elected editor-in-chief of OSU's flagship law review, *The Ohio State Law Journal.* She is a summer associate at Sullivan & Cromwell.

Eleanor Pressman, Connor Moore and **Nick Rio** all moved to California after graduating, where El is in grad school at UC Davis, Nick lives and works in San Francisco, and Connor recently moved from Long Beach to Los Angeles and works in Burbank. El notes, "We enjoy getting to see each other lots, especially last summer, when we completed a section of the John Muir Trail together. (See the nearby photo!) We're looking forward to more adventures this summer!"

Ryan Schweitzer will start a master's in theological studies at Harvard Divinity School this fall. "Would enjoy meeting with anyone from the class of 2019 in Cambridge!" he says.

Miguel Tapia Colin has been selected as the next editor-in-chief of *Rutgers Race & the Law Review* and has a forthcoming publication in Volume 25.

Congrats to Miguel!

Please send us your latest news via the emails at the top of the column or the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication.

Be well, Class of 2019.

2020

Stephen Cone and Kyra Ann Dawkins
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kad2196@columbia.edu

Kyra Ann Dawkins is publishing a serial, *First-Person Archer,* a companion piece to her debut dystopian novel, *The We and the They*, on Kindle Vella. She will also pursue an M.F.A. in creative writing this fall in New York City.

Dimitri Godur, a first-year at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, led a new study that could increase the use of cochlear implants to treat patients with severe hearing loss. More specifically, he and a team of other medical students discovered that a compound, taurodeoxycholic acid, can help retain residual hearing during cochlear implant procedures.

Thank you to Kyra and Dimitri for submitting a note. We look forward to hearing from more of you soon enough.

Please contact either of us using the email addresses at the top of the column, or submit through the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos should be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

2021

Mario A. Garcia Jr.
mag2329@columbia.edu

Hey Class of 2021! I can't believe it's already been a year since we were all together on College Walk, finally being able to walk the stage after such a tumultuous time. I hope all is well and look forward to hearing more about what's been going on in your life and what you're up to!

I finally got a New York Public Library card and have been reading voraciously since the start of this year. It's been a great way to unwind and embrace new perspectives outside of the required reading the Core Curriculum provided.

Cesar Ramos Medina recently got engaged to Sam Simpson BC'21. They've adopted a cute cat and are enjoying their time in the Bay Area together. Cesar is a data scientist at Facebook (although there might be changes on the horizon!).

Congratulations, Cesar and Sam!

Matthew Pitcock is on his way to Princeton this fall to begin a Ph.D. in economics.

Zhouyao Xie recently published a memoir in China, 晨边那抹微蓝 (*Morningside Blue*). The book includes a collection of essays and poems and details her experience as an international student at Columbia.

TRISTAN ADAMS

Backpacking at Muir Pass, Sierra Nevada, Calif., on July 4, 2022, were (left to right) Nick Rio '19, Connor Moore '19 and Eleanor Pressman '19.

If you would like to share your own Class Note or update, please feel free to reach out to me at any time by email, or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Photos must be sent to *CCT* via the Class Notes photo webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Be sure to read the parameters at the top to ensure your photo is eligible for publication!

2022

Mark Anthony Torres
mat2223@columbia.edu

Hey CC'22! My name is **Mark Anthony Torres,** and I am the class correspondent. As we begin to make our mark in this world, whether in graduate school or in the workforce, I hope we continue to stay connected. I will always be grateful that I got the opportunity to attend this university and make lifelong memories with you.

What better way to stay connected than to share our milestones and successes with one another? If you would like to share what's been happening with your life, please submit a Class Note via email or through the Class Notes webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. I will make sure to incorporate it in a future *CCT.*

Now on to our Class Notes!

Ethan Abelar is a research assistant for the Metropolitan Opera. He is in charge of researching patrons who donate to the Met so that they can fund new productions and educational programs.

Adam Kluge has been continuing his education at the University of Oxford in England, hoping to obtain an M.S. in criminology and criminal justice. He is expected to graduate this year with distinction. Recently, Adam became a legal assistant for Turpin and Miller, near his university, where he is doing research on incarcerated immigrants in the United Kingdom. After earning an M.S., Adam will remain at Oxford to pursue a Ph.D. in criminology.

Andrew Sullivan started a physics Ph.D. program at Stanford. He is continuing the research he started while an undergraduate on neutron stars and black holes. Recently, he coauthored *The Evolution of Compact Symmetric Objects — A Possible Connection with Tidal Disruption Events* (bit.ly/3KkFMNA).

Ricardo Mercado is a master's student at Williams College in Massachusetts, studying art history. As part of his thesis research, he is visiting art museums throughout the country. He will submit his thesis and graduate by 2024.

Virginia Ignelzi will graduate from NYU with a master's in art history in May 2024. Currently, she is researching Renaissance art and is deciding whether she will write about this art period for her thesis.

obituaries

Columbia College Today has learned of the deaths of the following alumni. You can read more about their lives and find featured obituaries for **George S. Zimbel '51; Edward B. Koren '57; Robert Berne '60, BUS'62;** and **John Prados '73, GSAS'82** online at college.columbia.edu/cct. To submit an obituary for a Columbia College graduate, please use the online webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_obituary.

1951 **Robert Cowen Jr.,** manufacturer, Morristown, N.J., on January 11, 2023.

George S. Zimbel, documentary photographer, Montreal, on January 9, 2023.

David H. Zinman, journalist, Point Lookout, N.Y., on February 12, 2023.

1952 **George I. Gordon,** attorney, Bronx, N.Y., on January 8, 2023.

Aldo F. Ippolito, entrepreneur, Toronto, on December 3, 2022.

1954 **Joel J. Belson,** English and humanities professor, Jamaica, N.Y., on July 10, 2022.

Stanley Friedman, English professor, Hingham, Mass., on November 18, 2022.

1955 **Mortimer M. Civan,** professor of physiology, Philadelphia, on April 17, 2022.

Harold S. Kusher, rabbi and author, Canton, Mass., on April 27, 2023.

1956 **Alan Broadwin,** mechanical engineer, White Plains, N.Y., on December 17, 2022.

H. Michael Grant, psychiatrist, New York City, on March 26, 2023.

1957 **John B. Ahouse,** archivist and librarian, Long Beach, Calif., on April 3, 2023.

Lewis V. Ciardullo Sr., urologist, Sun City, Ariz., on January 16, 2021.

Alan I. Fine, primary care physician, Warren, N.J., on February 18, 2022.

Paul S. Frommer, naval commander, Alexandria, Va., on January 21, 2023

Edward R. Heiser, business executive and magician, Savannah, Ga., on April 5, 2023.

Edward B. Koren, cartoonist, Brookfield, Vt., on April 14, 2023.

Robert J. Lehner, attorney and justice official, North Miami Beach, Fla., on January 15, 2023.

Herman D. Levy, attorney, Falls Church, Va., on May 7, 2023.

Jerome H. Rettig, attorney, Lake Worth, Fla., on February 5, 2023.

Herbert D. Sturman, attorney, Los Angeles, on April 2, 2023.

1958 **Morris J. Amitay,** political advocate, Rockville, Md., on February 10, 2023.

S. Donald Gonson, attorney, Cambridge, Mass., on February 18, 2023.

Robert S. Waldbaum, urologist, Manhasset, N.Y., on January 29, 2023.

1959 **Stephen A. Kallis Jr.,** public relations executive, Temple Terrace, Fla., on March 29, 2023.

Sheldon Perry (né Pedowitz), television executive, Chicago, on January 4, 2022.

Norman Vieira, law professor, Myrtle Beach, S.C., on August 11, 2022.

1961 **Joseph H. Berke,** psychotherapist, London, on January 11, 2021.

Andrew L. Gelfand, engineer, Silver Spring, Md., on March 3, 2023.

Irwin M. Wall, history professor, New York City, on January 27, 2023.

David M. Wilson, Foreign Service officer, Bethesda, Md., on February 27, 2023.

1962 **Walter B. Hilse,** organist and composer, New York City, on December 31, 2022.

Howard R. Relin, district attorney, Canandaigua, N.Y., on December 7, 2022.

Theodore C. Salomon, sales executive, Great Neck, N.Y., on December 23, 2022.

1963 **Barry M. Austern,** biochemist, Cincinnati, on April 11, 2023.

Gerald P. "Jerry" Dwyer, attorney, New York City, on January 31, 2023.

Kenneth M. Master, internist, Boynton Beach, Fla., on March 2, 2023.

Michael D. Nolan, community organizer, San Francisco, on April 8, 2023.

1964 **Jay M. Portnow,** rehabilitation physician, Rockville, Md., on July 25, 2022.

Daniel S. Press, attorney and advocate, Rockville, Md., on October 5, 2022.

Daniel P. Schechter, attorney, Millerton, N.Y., on March 12, 2023.

1965 **Peter W. Herman,** attorney, Scarsdale, N.Y., on February 19, 2023.

Nicholas E. Pingitore Jr., geoscientist and professor, El Paso, Texas, on October 24, 2022.

David P. Sard, psychologist and playwright, West Orange, N.J., February 28, 2023.

1966 **Edwin L. Doernberger,** attorney, Woodbridge, Conn., on May 21, 2021.

Michael E. Feingold, theater critic, translator, lyricist, playwright and dramaturg, New York City, on November 21, 2022.

1967 **Mark S. Golub,** rabbi and media innovator, Stamford, Conn., on January 31, 2023.

1968 **Klaus E. von Stutterheim,** banker and cowboy, Seeley Lake, Mont., on March 1, 2021.

1969 **R. Bruce Dickson,** attorney, Chevy Chase, Md., on November 11, 2022.

1972 **James J. Sabella,** attorney, Hillsborough, N.J., on March 11, 2023.

1973 **John F. Prados,** critical historian, Silver Spring, Md., on November 29, 2022.

1974 **William F. Meehan III,** strategic manager, Palo Alto, Calif., and New York City, on January 26, 2023.

1975 **Guy Golembiewski,** family physician, Boyne Falls, Mich., on January 22, 2023.

C. John McCloskey III, Catholic priest, Reston, Va., on February 23, 2023.

1981 **Paulsen "Paul" K. Vandevert,** attorney, Dearborn, Mich., on March 14, 2023.

1991 **Rachel J. Porter,** special education teacher, Brooklyn, N.Y., on February 27, 2023.

2006 **Ansel W. Lurio,** editor and disability rights activist, Yonkers, N.Y., on September 28, 2022.

read*it*online

Joshua Spodek '93 swimming across the Hudson River in August 2018.

JOSHUA SPODEK '93 FOUND CONNECTION BY DISCONNECTING

On May 22, 2022, **Joshua Spodek '93, GSAS'99, BUS'06** disconnected the electricity in his West Village apartment. A year later, it's still off.

For Spodek, an environmentalist, executive leadership coach, motivational speaker, author, professor and podcaster, living off the grid is the latest effort in his mission to encourage personal and corporate sustainability. "You can't influence others to live by values you live the opposite of," his website reads.

He hasn't flown in six years. This is Spodek's second year with his fridge unplugged; he's a vegan, and favors fresh, local produce (not much of a novelty — he stopped eating packaged food a decade ago). He charges his essential electronics via portable solar panels, bought used on Craigslist, on his building's roof. Still, he unplugged as an experiment, not knowing how he'd make it past a few days. "Nobody is more surprised than I am that I made it this long," he says.

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